RAMSEY & WARBOYS REPORTER

ISSUE 27 • SEPTEMBER 2017

COVERING LOCAL NEWS, SERVING LOCAL PEOPLE

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Di's head-shave appeal for Maaya Clinic – the result

By Di Pitts

Thank you so very much people of Ramsey Parish for donating so generously to the above cause. Along with family and friends you have helped me to raise the amazing sum of £2,406.38.

You may remember that back in June I had my head of curly hair shaved at the Churches fête on the Abbey Green. Yes, it was a stunt to raise money, but also to hopefully raise the awareness that AIDS is still very prevalent in African countries, and that any safe way of preventing such disease from spreading should be adopted.

I am so grateful to you all for helping me to raise such a wonderful sum, and every penny will go to that project. The hair is gradually growing again, in my natural grey, so I have gone from golden (bottled) curly locks to silver fox. Once again Thank-You people of Ramsey and area!

Ramsey 1940's - another success story...

August saw the return of our most popular, enduring and unique town events, the Ramsey 1940's Weekend.

Held at the 1940's Camp in Wood Lane, thousands turned out from across the country to attend one of the most anticipated events of the year, with all the usual treats including a veritable village of tents and stalls, the annual battle re-enactment, live entertainment in the big top, a parade of vintage vehicles, the evening dance and so much more.

Well attended as ever and sure to have a strong turnover, this year's profits will continue to fund the refurbishment of the site, including the new Drill Hall which continues to be Ramsey's most popular new venue.

See more on pages 16/17

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COVERING LOCAL NEWS SERVING LOCAL PEOPLE

The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter is an independent newspaper with no ties or associations with any larger publishers or organisations.
Each month, we bring you the best selection of news, views and what's on in the Ramsey area - written and produced locally and delivered FREE to your door.

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If you have a story or if you know of an event which may be of local interest please let us know; we can publish it in your newspaper - The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter

Phone: 01487 462 100
info@ramseyandwarboysreporter.co.uk

in brief

'ARSON' ABOUT

The arson spree in Ramsey continues as a local fire crew was called for a skip fire in Canberra Court, Ramsey. Firefighters extinguished the fire using one hose reel.
Anyone with information should contact the police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

£25

Per ticket to the Mayor's Chairty dinner, in support of his Mayor's Charity fundraising. The dinner is, to be held at the Old Nene Golf and Country Club in Ramsey on 11 November. Tickets for the three course meal are £25 per person. For further information or to book please call or email Ramsey Town Council.

FREE MARKET ECONOMICS

On Saturday 9th September 2017, Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust will be offering small, local groups a free market stall!
For more info, see page 25

RESULTS ARE IN

98%

The Abbey College pass rate for ***GCSE's,*** 30% of students receiving A* or A grades and 47% achieving A* to B grades. Almost three quarters of students were awarded A* to C grades (72 per cent).

70%

Of ***A-Level*** student achieved the top 4-9 grades (the equivalent of the old A*-C) in both English and maths. In addition, 65 of students achieved up to five A*-C grades.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER 2017

2nd **Bring Back the Sixties**
The Drill Hall, Ramsey
3rd **Fenland Light Railway**
Ramsey Mereside
4th **Ramsey Library AGM**
Ramsey Library
9th **Ceilidh Dance**
The Drill Hall, Ramsey
10th **National Heritage Open Day**
Various heritage locations
12th **Ramsey & District U3A**
Ramsey Community Centre
23rd **Film at the Crown**
Crown Inn, Broughton
24th **Plough Day**
Ramsey Rural Museum

For more information, please visit: discoverramsey.co.uk/events

ITS A GOOD MONTH FOR

FISHING

A new superstore is set to open in Warboys, replacing the abandoned aircraft hanger. See more on page 4.

ITS A BAD MONTH FOR

FISH

Warboys weir has become overstocked and some fish will be relocated to other waters

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NEWS FROM WARBOYS

Betty Ball made Freewoman

Local resident Betty Ball was admitted as the first an Honorary Freewoman of the Parish of Warboys. At a Special Meeting of Warboys Parish Council on Monday 14th August 2017. The unanimous decision was made by the Parish Council on the night, with Chairman Cllr Mary Bucknell presenting the award. According to a post on Facebook, Cllr Bucknell "considered it a privilege to be able to present this award for the first time to Betty on behalf of the residents of Warboys and expressed her delight at the many people in attendance for the presentation."

"She also stated it was well deserved recognition for Betty's many years of dedicated work from which all age groups had benefited, the results of which were still ongoing today. Prior to presenting the award, the Chairman said the village has been enriched by Betty's enthusiasm and determination which, hopefully, was an ongoing inspiration to others."

Betty made what was described as an "interesting, often amusing summary of her achievements" in a speech following her award, regularly quoting those people who had ably assisted her over the years, some of whom were present.

According to the Parish Council, displays of photographic and written memorabilia were eagerly studied by all in attendance whilst joining Betty in a celebratory toast.

Recycling Credits Bonanza

The amount of credits generated by Warboys textile bank's has almost doubled last year's total, according to statistics released by the Warboys Parish Council.

£968 has been generated in recycling credits from the use of the textile banks in the Library car park in Warboys High Street in the past year.

In a statement released through social media, the Parish Council said "although there are lots of options to dispose of unwanted clothing either through charity shops or door-to-door charity collections, use of the textile banks means that the recycling credits are paid to Warboys Parish Council and can be spent on village facilities."

All profits from the clothes and shoes that are collected in Warboys still go to charity via Planet Aid UK Ltd, a non-profit organisation who donate the proceeds to development work in Africa and India.

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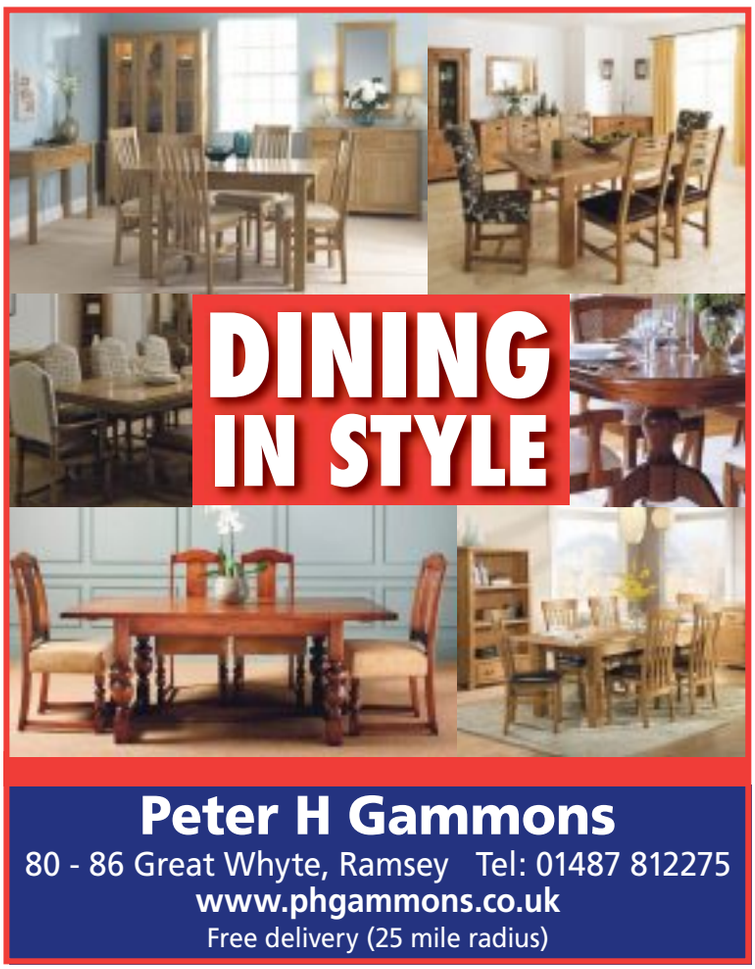

news

Ninebarrow come to Upwood!

The first concert of our Autumn 2017 programme takes place on Thursday 14th September at 7.45pm and features Jon Whitley and Jay LaBouchardiere, collectively known as Ninebarrow. They are a multi-award-winning duo, who are impressing audiences across the country with their innovative and captivating take on the folk tradition. The duo were nominated in the 2017 BBC Radio 2 Folk Award 'Horizon' category for Best Emerging Artist and also for 'Best Duo' in both the Fatea Magazine Awards 2016 and the Folking.com awards of 2017.

They combine breath-taking vocal harmonies and melodies, delivering original songs that are inspired and rooted in the landscape and history of the British Isles. As well as crafting unique and engaging original material, Ninebarrow also take a wide-range of traditional folk songs and rework them in their own, distinctive way. Not only exceptional singers and musicians, Ninebarrow are also equally passionate about the stories behind their songs - combining their music with history, folklore and storytelling.

Having been friends since the age of twelve, it wasn't until 2012 that the pair began singing together. The success the duo enjoyed during their early years performing

By Doug Mcleod

together was set in front of a backdrop of full-time work in other professions. During Ninebarrow's first four years, the duo took bookings as often as they were able, whilst Jay worked as a qualified GP and Jon as a full-time primary school teacher. It wasn't until the Spring of 2016 that both decided to take the decision to step back from these roles in order to pursue professional careers as musicians

Most recently, Ninebarrow's second album, 'Releasing the Leaves', was released to wide-spread critical acclaim. Recorded and produced in the duo's own studio and mastered by Mark Tucker (whose other credits include Show of Hands and Fairport Convention) the album received a raft of stellar reviews including five stars in both Maverick Magazine and the English Dance and Song Magazine produced by the EFDSS. Receiving airplay on national and regional radio stations across the UK, including the multiple plays on the BBC Radio 2 Folk Show, it was described by Suzi Klein on BBC Radio 3 as demonstrating the duo's harmonies 'to perfection'. It was also awarded four stars by The Telegraph and listed in the paper's Top Folk Albums of 2016 as well as featuring in several other 'Best Albums of 2016' awards lists.

We are delighted to welcome this talented duo to Upwood Village Hall. Tickets cost £11.00 and are available by contacting 01487 814114 or pndmcleod@btinternet.com.

You can find further information about Upwood Village Hall Performing Arts Events on its Facebook page or via Upwood's website: www.upwood.org

2017 HORIZON AWARD NOMINEES BBC RADIO 2 FOLK AWARDS

MINDLESS VANDALISM!

Peter Hazell - Chairman, Bury Parish Council

Bury Parish Council is pleased to tell you that the gym equipment was installed at the end of July and within a couple of minutes a small group of teenagers were using it.

However, in just over a week, a number of the rubber grips from the handles have been removed and thrown over the fence onto the school playing field and a small part of the rubber matting under the shelter has been burnt.

The Parish Council tries to cater for all age groups and in trying to provide facilities for teenagers and others

it greatly disappoints me that a small minority can spoil things for the majority.

If the culprits happen to read this I hope they will think about their actions

Aircraft hangers transformed into Warboys fishing superstore

A new Fishing Republic has made its home in a former aircraft hangar in Warboys.

Having opened on the Bank Holiday weekend, August 26th, the 7,000+ square feet store - which is ideally located at the heart of some of the finest river and lake angling in the country - offers an enormous range of tackle, bait, clothing and accessories, catering to the needs of carp, match, game anglers and general pleasure fishers alike.

But transforming the property from disused recycling centre (its most recent function) to retail showcase has proved quite a challenge. As a former RAF Pathfinder Force station, Warboys Airfield was spared the ravages of World War 2. But this particular hangar proved unprepared for a freak gust, estimated at 95 miles-per-hour, which caused part of the building to collapse shortly after the lease was signed.

Area Manager Steve Calder says, "When we took on the unit, in January of this year, we knew we'd have much to do. For starters, there was no drainage and no mains electricity. But we love a challenge and we're confidently looking forward to a June opening. Then came Storm Doris.

"Inevitably, this put our plans back a couple of months. But it had to be done. Though we were advised that the collapse was caused by an unprecedented confluence of wind and other factors, meaning there was probably a one-in-a-million chance of a recurrence, we were not willing to take the risk."

At least six staff are said to have been brought on-board, and the store is expected to open seven days a week

Steve says, "In all, it will have taken us almost a year to get the new superstore off the ground but I'm confident - despite a few preliminary challenges - customers will agree: Fishing Republic Warboys will be well worth the wait."

Two injured in Kit-Car crash

Two people were taken to hospital after suffering non-life-threatening injuries in a crash just outside Ramsey.

At 6.36pm on August 13th, firefighters attended the collision in Wood Lane, Ramsey, where they freed a person involved in the incident from a Robin Hood kit car that had collided with a tree.

A crew from Ramsey and another from Papworth were called to the scene and returned to their stations by 8.24pm, after leaving the driver and their passenger in the care of the ambulance service.

"Two ambulances, the Magpas medical car and an ambulance officer attended and treated two patients," a spokesman for EEAST added.

"One with a leg injury and one with a suspected chest injury were both taken to Peterborough City Hospital for further care. Both patient's injuries are believed to be non-life threatening."

Officers from Cambridgeshire police and the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Road Policing Unit were also at the scene.

Earlier in the day, firefighters were called to Parkhall Road, in Somersham, shortly before 6pm, to reports of a Mini Cooper that had landed in a ditch.

Happy First Birthday to Divine Canine, Ramsey

By Maurice Kendrick

Celebrating their first anniversary, Divine Canine, who provide a unique day care centre for dogs from their premises in Ramsey are very pleased with the reaction and growing customer base they have achieved over the past twelve months.

Really excited

Proprietor Anna Burgess said she's very happy at how the business has developed since she opened her doors on 29th August, last year. "I'm so pleased with how excited the dogs get, and all the positive things their owners have said", explained Anna. "The dogs literally pull their owners through the door or get really excited in the car, because they know where they are going", she went on to say.

I can confirm what Anna says is correct, as when I called in to see her recently I was greeted by all the dogs, who couldn't wait to get me to play with them. They just seemed so happy to be there.

Quiet evening

Anna said she feels honoured that people trust her with her dogs. "One of my owners will say to her dog, 'do you want to go and see Anna at Doggy Daycare?' and she goes absolutely wild with excitement." She added, "I had two huskies for a play session and the owner sent me a message afterward, thanking me for a quiet evening, as the dogs had slept right through".

To celebrate their first birthday, Anna has organised a special open day on Sunday, 3rd

September, from 10.30am, for new owners to take their dogs along to see how they get along and to discuss the services on offer as well as existing customers, to say thank you for your support throughout the first year.

For further details, contact Anna on **01487 711854/07725 985369** or email her at **Divinecanine89@gmail.com.** You can also visit **www.divinecanine-petservices.co.uk** They also have a great Facebook page.

DIVINE CANINE - DOGGY DAYCARE

BIRTHDAY EVENT

10.30am Sunday, 3rd September, 2017

To celebrate our first anniversary you are invited to our special birthday party to say thank you for all your support and to give new dogs and owners the opportunity to come and have a look round to see what DIvine Canine is all about.
Your dog(s) can come and have a play free of charge, though they must be sociable with other dogs and will be your responsibility. You can come and have a look round and chat with us about the services we offer, which include:

- Puppy Socialisation sessions
- Stay & Play sessions available during the week
- Training sessions

Hot drinks will be available at a small cost and there will be a few stalls selling some dog related products.

Find us on Facebook – just search for 'DivineCanine'

Divine Canine
Doggy Daycare

Divine Canine
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The Knitted Bible comes to Ramsey

On loan from St George's United Reformed Church, Hartlepool, their Knitted Bible Exhibition will be displayed at Ramsey Methodist Church from Sunday, 15th October until Saturday, 21st October. The Church will be open for public viewing from 2pm – 4pm on Sunday, 15th and from 10am – 4pm on Saturday, 21st October.

Local schools and community groups are invited to view the display at pre-arranged times from Monday, 16th to Friday, 20th October, to give each group time to enjoy the display uninterrupted.

The Last Supper

Knitting started at the end of February 2008, with the intention to create the scene of 'The Last Supper', but enthusiasm and imagination, combined to make them much more ambitious.

By depicting some of the best-known stories in the Bible, everyone who sees them will be able to understand and enjoy them - and may discover some detail that they had forgotten or never noticed before - whilst learning more about God and his love for this world and its people.

Free gift

All visitors to the Knitted Bible display will receive a free gift as they exit the display, and all visiting children will be given a free quiz booklet to complete.

There will be no entrance fee but donations for the work of Ramsey Methodist Church and St George's Church Hartlepool (home of the Knitted Bible) are most welcome.

If you would like further information about the Knitted Bible display in Ramsey, contact Carol Simpson on 01487 815683, email sim.car53@gmail.com or Margaret Bailey on 01487 813075, email margaretabailey@btinternet.com

WEEKLY POLICING UPDATE

The Avenue, Ramsey - A dwelling burglary at The Avenue, Ramsey on Friday 4th August at some time between 17:30 hours and 20:50 hours. In this offence, unknown offenders forced a rear window of a residential property before stealing cash and a small amount of jewellery. There were a number of events going on at nearby clubs between the above times so police are therefore appealing for anyone who was in the area at the time, who saw anything suspicious to make contact with.

Bencroft Lane, Warboys - On the same evening, there was a further offence in Warboys, with offenders again forciing entry to a property via a rear window before stealing cash and jewellery.

Hollow Lane, Ramsey – Intruders attempted to climb on to the flat roof of a house on Hollow Lane, Ramsey, at some time between 2:00 pm on Saturday 12th and 11:15 am on Sunday 13th August, damaging plastic guttering in the process. However, no-one gained entry to the house which remained secure.

Cricketfield Lane, Ramsey – Vandals smashed the windscreen of a car left in the car-park of a sports field on Cricketfield Lane, Ramsey, between 5:30 and 6:00 pm on Tuesday, 15th August. Unfortunately there is no CCTV coverage of the place where the car was parked and no-one has reported seeing the crime taking place.

Charles Close, Ramsey – Police are investigating a break-in and burglary at a house on Charles Close, Ramsey, that took place overnight on Tuesday 15th / Wednesday 16th August.

Ramsey Golf Course, Hollow Lane – Police have received reports of an incident which happened on the Ramsey Golf Course, Hollow Lane, at around 5:15 pm on Wednesday 16th August in which a lady on a golf buggy was involved in an argument with some young people with bicycles. It is alleged that the lady ran over one of the bikes with her buggy, and also that the teenagers were abusive towards the lady. Both allegations are being investigated.

Canberra Court, Ramsey – Police were notified by the Fire Brigade that they had been called to a fire in a skip at a garage block, thought to have been started deliberately shortly after midnight on Friday 18th August.

Mere Drove, Ramsey Forty Foot – Police received reports of possible hare-coursers seen on land off Mere Drove and Puddock Road, Ramsey Fort Foot, on Sunday evening, 20th August. Two off-road vehicles with people on foot accompanied by dogs had been spotted, but when police arrived and searched the area, no-one was found.

St Mary's Road, Ramsey – Police were called to an incident on St Mary's Road, Ramsey, on Monday afternoon, 21st August, in which a car had left the road, rolled over and ended up with its front end in a ditch. The driver was reported to be slightly injured, but had managed to get out of the car, which was later pulled out of the ditch and towed away by recovery services.

If you have information relating to any offence, or are concerned about any suspicious activities, contact police by using the '101' telephone number. Alternatively, you can use 'Crimestoppers' to make a report anonymously by calling 0800 555 111

community

OBITUARY

Tony Richardson, 59, of Ramsey Heights, died 19th July 2017 at home following an accident.

Tony Richardson was a respected member of the community in Ramsey and installed many stairlifts in the town and the surrounding area. Tony was born in Wegberg, Germany and came to Ramsey at the age of 12. His father was in the RAF and moved to Ramsey whilst based at RAF Wyton. Tony had recently attended boarding school in Belfast so his new friends found it a bit difficult understanding his Northern Ireland accent. However, the friends he made at the Ailwyn School, now Abbey College, stayed with him for the rest of his life.

First motorbike

After leaving school he followed his father into the RAF but couldn't cope with the regular haircuts and the travelling back to Ramsey each weekend from the West Country to meet up with friends. It was during his time in the West Country that he bought his first motorbike. He remembered all the number plates of every motor bike and car he ever owned, and there were quite a few.

He had various jobs during his life including an undertaker in St Ives and Huntingdon, maker of stained glass church windows, a taxi driver and mechanic for Abbots Ripton Taxis, "the man from the Pru", a double glazing salesman at POSH Windows and latterly the owner of Green Stairlifts Limited and Brides' Cars wedding car hire company with his wife Joan.

Proudest achievement

One of his proudest achievements was changing the ordinance survey map of Ramsey with the addition of Muchwood Green Burial Ground which he established with Jamie Rule and Chris Dyer of EP Brand (Farmers) Ltd.

His funeral took place at Muchwood Green Burial Ground with the cortege including his favourite motorbike as well as his Alfa Romeo Spyder, and was followed by many of his fellow motorbike riders, members of the "curry club" together with the Alfa Romeo Owners Club, family from all over the UK and Northern Ireland, friends and neighbours.

Tony leaves his parents, wife, daughter, step son, grandsons and a sister.

RAMSEY CRAFT FESTIVAL

Saturday September 23rd

Last year's craft festival on the Great Whyte in Ramsey was a great market day for Ramsey. There were lots of people in town and the atmosphere was buzzing so this year we are hoping for some good weather and another great turnout. Those who came last year said that they'd be back and, for those who missed the opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping last September, they will have a chance on September 23rd this year!

As well as some long established craft marketers who will be coming to Ramsey we will have some fine local crafters showing their work. Jewellery, decorations, coasters, pottery, paintings and textiles will be part of the mix as well as food stalls such as Belles Vintage Teas, Fenland Preserves plus Candies and Curiosities.

Local traders also enjoyed the Craft Festival last year and were part of the attraction - leaflets with a map of the town marking our gift and craft shops were distributed at the market. Crafty Ideas on the High Street had been sceptical about a craft market coming to town and compromising his sales but after the event he said that he had new customers calling in and was happy to see the event again in 2017. Louise Sanderson from Wild Frost Café said that the Craft Festival was the café's busiest ever day and she thanked her staff for coping with all the extra customers!

So don't miss out – come down and see Ramsey's market bustling on Saturday September 23rd on the Great Whyte from 9am – 2pm!

If you would like more information then please contact me by email **ann.cuthbert@cambsacre.org.uk** or call **07762 710257**

Great Fen UPDATE

By Mandy Corney

The summer months have been really busy down at the Great Fen.

Visitors have enjoyed exploring the site with Newton's Trail. All sorts of fun has been had with pond dipping, wild den making and tree recognition throughout the countryside Centre.

The Dragonfly trail at New Decoy (on the B660 was opened again for the Bank holiday weekend) following the long closure period whilst works have been taking place.

Always check out the Great Fen Website www.greatfen.org.uk to see what's going on.

UKIP

We are working on many different projects and continue to support individual residents and families with their concerns such as planning applications, PIP, disabilities, clearing paths, and housing.

We are here to support you all year round

Your UKIP Team for NW Cambs

Ramsey & Bury
Cllr Pete Reeve MBE
07792 290434

Warboys and the Stukeleys
Paul Bullen
07702 387867

Ramsey & Bury
Mick Mean
07860 204984

Ramsey & Bury
Cllr Lisa Duffy
07775 693420

You can contact us any time or visit us in the **Ramsey Library** on a Wednesday between 10 - 4pm

If you have any concerns day or night then please don't hesitate to get in touch

Printed and promoted by P.Reeve, 4 Meadow Walk, Ramsey. PE26 1JY

community

BENWICK BANTER

BENWICK IN BLOOM

By Jill Hindle

This has been a bumper year for Bloom, Benwick really is Blooming thanks to all the beautiful garden displays and tractor tyre displays dotted around the village. Wonderful hanging basket and container displays all making Benwick very colourful. Winners of the Garden competition will be announced in September."

Benwick Ladies Club

Are holding a Macmillan coffee evening
Thursday 21st September
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Perrys celebrate 7 years in business

By Maurice Kendrick

Another year has flown by for local business owner Marie Perry, who has been running her private hire business since September, 2010. In that time Marie has seen her business grow to the successful operation it is today. All her drivers are experienced, CRB checked professionals with clean licences and are very proud of the company's code of practice: 'On Time and Reliable'.

Seven day operation

Marie runs a 24/7, seven days a week service from her Ramsey premises, which includes a unique meet and greet airport service from all major airports, including car Wi-Fi, newspapers and water in an air conditioned, luxury vehicle, complimenting her fleet of 8 and 16 seater mini-buses. Marie puts her success down to her willingness to go that extra mile for her customers, from shopping deliveries to collecting prescriptions, and even taking one of her customers to hospital, whilst waiting with them to be seen.

Valued customers

"I'm very pleased to have established Perrys Private Hire as part of the local community and greatly appreciate the loyalty of my valued customers." said Marie. "I want to take this opportunity to thank my customers and I am very proud to serve you well," she added.

If you want more information about Perrys Private Hire and their services call: 01487 814 989 or you can email Marie at: bookings@perrysprivatehire.co.uk

Bury Village Fair

Saturday 23rd September at 2pm
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Please email lisa.schiavo@btinternet for more information.
Bury neighbourhood plan

ONLINE

NATIONAL HERITAGE OPEN DAY

This year's heritage day is a chance to see Ramsey's stories at 8 different heritage sites – and all for free. As usual a vintage bus will be leaving the library on the hour from 11am until 4pm calling at the Abbey Green, the Rural Museum , the 1940's Camp and the Fenland Light Railway. As well as taking in these sites, you can also visit the Abbey Gatehouse (National Trust), the library and the Lady Chapel in the Abbey House. You can take a short stroll to the site of the ice house and to the Walled Kitchen Garden that once served the great house. The Victorian Mortuary Chapels will also be open and you will be able to look at the research and renovation work undertaken here over the last few years.

Ramsey has been part of the National Heritage Open Day for some years now and the visitor numbers have been good. Ramsey's involvement is featured on the national website and visitors come for the day from as far afield as Birmingham and Nottingham to see Ramsey's fantastic heritage. Local visitors come back year after year as different sites join in and all make sure they have something special to show visitors. This year, for example, you can see the display and talk to members of the

Warboys Archaeology Project about the mapping work they have been doing this year to try and work out the footprint of the medieval abbey.

And no heritage day in Ramsey would be complete without the "rammies" waiting for you in each site. Find 7 of the 9 hidden and you can win a prize!

Leaflets with information, maps, a bus timetable and a list of where you can look for the "rammies" will be available at the library and all the sites. So, come and join the fun for a great free day out!

If you would like more information then please contact me by email ann.cuthbert@cambsacre.org.uk or call 07762 710257

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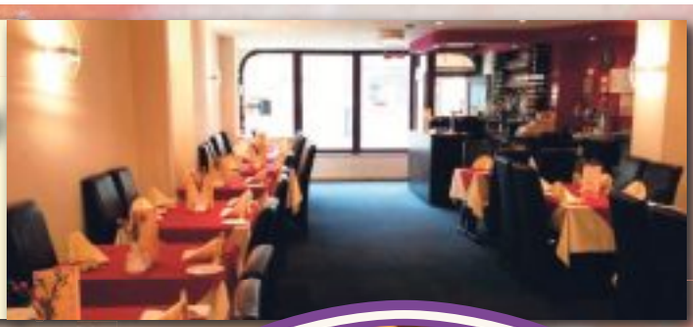

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community

CRUNCH YOUTH PROJECT

making a difference in the community

The CRUNCH youth project is managed by Your Neighbourhood Office but with young people in control, making decisions and developing activities not only for themselves but also for other people within the community.

We applied for and were successful in obtaining funding from the Police & Crime Commissioner via Cambridgeshire Community Foundation. This funding wasn't for the young people themselves, it was specifically so that they could research other activities going on in the community and make some decisions about good causes they wanted to support. You may remember last Christmas they held a Christmas party for residents at the Red House care home.

During the spring they researched pre-school facilities within Ramsey Parish and decided it would be nice to support a village organisation for under 5's. Sarah Griffiths from Ashbeach Ladybirds Pre-School explained that they were developing the outside space and particularly wanted to purchase early years woodworking tools. CRUNCH youth project thought this was a great idea so Sam and Tia went along to present a cheque to Sarah at their building next to Ashbeach School in Ramsey St Marys.

Over the Summer CRUNCH contributed to the CREATE-Fest music festival by sponsoring the event compere, an event for the whole community which attracted around 2000 people. They also used the opportunity to do some fundraising for the youth club, which starts again on Thursday 14th September at the Cricket Club.

Time off during school holidays also gave a great opportunity for the young people to support another good cause they had researched – The Food Bank co-ordinated by St Thomas a Becket Church. Rather than just hand over money they wanted to research what was needed and shop for the items. Three of the girls; Tia, April and Sophie took on the task and did a fantastic job. They made sure they bought non-perishable items, a good range of items like tinned stewing steak, meatballs and hot-dog sausages as well as the usual beans and soups. They also thought about basic toiletries and sanitary products along with cereals and some treats for children. The £250 they had to spend went a long way and the girls managed their budget well adding up as they went around the shop buying goods in multiples of six or twelve. They filled two trollies and the volunteers at the foodbank were absolutely delighted to receive the supplies.

It's so nice to see our young people making a positive difference within the community they live.

For more information on CRUNCH youth project for age 11+ or the BOSH project for ages 5 to 10 contact: Val Fendley at the Neighbourhood Office, 25 Great W hyte, Ramsey PE26 1HG. Telephone 01487 814897 or email val.rntoffice@gmail.com

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community

RAMSEY ROTARY

Reflex volunteers training to deliver the MyLife programme

Rotary - Helping Young Offenders to get Back on Track

The Rotary Club of Ramsey has supported a programme, 'MyLife', developed and run by the Reflex Charity, to provide life skills training for young offenders to help their integration back into the community following release from prison. Nationally, there are some 850 to 950 youths (under 18s) in custody at any one time. Reflex works with around 40% of these during the course of a year. Young offender statistics currently show that 68% re-offend within one year of release.

'MyLife' is an accredited course for young people which explores attitudes and behaviours, helps to increase achievement and build positive character. It addresses social, moral and spiritual development, bringing positive change to the lives of young people as they transition into adulthood, helping to break the cycle of offending and reoffending. The Rotary grant has supported the accreditation of the MyLife course, and an administrator to recruit and train volunteers to work with young offenders. In the last year, in excess of 200 youths have achieved accreditation through the course. As well as volunteers who work in prisons, a number of youth workers have benefited from MyLife training as part of an anti-gangs programme in London.

Providing a local perspective on youth crime, Police Sergeant Andy Street of the St Ives and Ramsey Neighbourhood Policing Team said "whilst Ramsey and District suffers a lower rate of youth offending than many other parts of the country, we are still working hard to improve the current situation. Over recent years we have seen notable reductions in youth related anti-social behaviour and always try to tailor our response to reported problem areas. Police Community Support Officer Rachel Martin has a specialist role as Schools Liaison Officer and is working locally with pupils who have offended or are likely to become offenders, offering interventions in order to steer them away from criminal behaviour. In recent times, the main area of reported youth crime has been through the use of social media. This includes cyber bullying and sexting. Local officers have been working with partner agencies in educating young people about the risks and consequences of this behaviour".

Rotary Stars

Ramsey Community Junior School.

The July Rotary Star award was presented to Sarah Hepburn. Sarah demonstrated great character and personality in a year when the family moved out of the area. Sarah was determined to stay at Ramsey Junior School and in spite of the journey she had never once been late for School. A worthy winner seen here with her parents.

Upwood Primary School.

The Summer term Rotary Star Award sent to year 6 student Thomas Bailey. He was chosen by the teaching staff for his exemplary qualities of leadership and care for his school friends when they needed help or support. Thomas has become an outstanding role model during his years at Upwood School.

Ashbeach Primary Primary School.

Our Rotary star this term was Amy Remzi. Amy had shown great character recently in the face of adversity and come through with flying colours. She is pictured here with her mum proudly showing her award.

Rotary on Show

Shelter Box at 1940's weekend

Ramsey Rotary had a stall at the recent 1940's weekend. The stand space was filled with a tent and all the equipment provided by a Shelter Box (an organisation associated with Rotary) providing emergency shelter for a family of 4 and tools for families robbed of their homes by disaster.

Latest request on Shelter Box on 10, July 2017, the Iraqi government declared that Mosul had finally been liberated after three years of Islamic State control. However, the humanitarian situation is still dire in Iraq and the need for ShelterBox aid is as prevalent as ever.

More than a million people are estimated to have fled in total - many don't have a home left standing to return to.

ShelterBox is working with partner organisations, including ACTED and People In Need, to distribute emergency ShelterKits and other essential aid to internally displaced families.

Ceilidh Dance

Rotary are holding their 3rd Ceilidh Dance at the Drill Hall on Wood Lane on 9th Seplember. Tickets available from School Plus and Rotary members. Come along for a fun night.

Purple Crocus Corms

Ramsey Rotary are again selling purple crocus corms as part of World Polio Irridication Campaign. They have 10,000 corms on order for delivery commencing in September. So far pre-sales orders for 1,225 have been received mainly from a stall at Ramsey's Garden Show in July. The next opportunity to order/purchase corms will be at the Bury Horticultural Show on the 9th September.

Stick to toys

It's the age old image of a man and his dog – out on a country walk, the man throwing a stick and the dog keenly retrieving it again and again – but it's one that makes anyone who works in the veterinary world cringe and hold their breath.

Every year veterinary surgeries see dogs with stick injuries, some minor and sadly a small proportion that are fatal. All from the seemingly harmless game of fetch with a stick. Injury can occur as a dog tries to grab the stick at speed. If one end gets jammed into the ground, the soft tissues in the mouth are no match for the other end of the stick.

The problem with sticks - they have pointy ends and they splinter.

Both these characteristics can cause serious problems for our pet pooches:

- Minor stick injuries include wood splinters and cuts in the mouth, possibly causing local infection. This can often be sorted out by a clean and a course of antibiotics if needed.
- Sometimes fragments of the wood can become lodged tightly on roof of the dog's mouth, swelling follows making it harder to dislodge and again infection. This often requires a sedation or anaesthetic to allow the vet to remove the fragments.
- Sharp edges of the wood can cause deep and extensive lacerations to lips, gums or the tongue. Some injuries need cleaning and stitching under anaesthetic.
- Splinters of the wood can be swallowed by the dog and cause lacerations and possibly more serious complications in the digestive system.
- The most serious injury is when the sharp end of the stick punctures the back of the dog's mouth. This can sever blood vessels or even puncture the oesophagus or trachea. The wood often splinters making the job of cleaning out the wound much harder. In these sorts of injuries, deep infection can set in which can track down to the dogs chest.

What to look out for if you suspect a stick injury:

- Excessive drooling
- Pawing at the mouth
- Problems eating or drinking
- Blood from the mouth or blood-tinged saliva
- Gagging or retching

If you see any of these signs please seek veterinary attention.

How to avoid:

We recommend you NEVER allow your dog to play with sticks. There are plenty of toys available to play fetch with that don't carry this risk. If your dog already loves sticks and always picks them up when out, it is possible to re-train them to the play with a toy instead. Seek advice from your local Cromwell Surgery.

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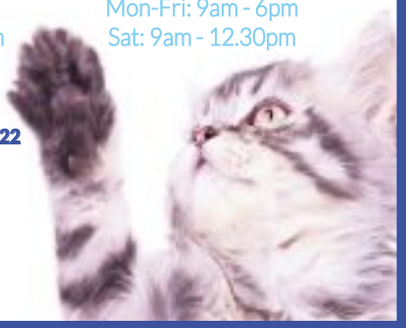

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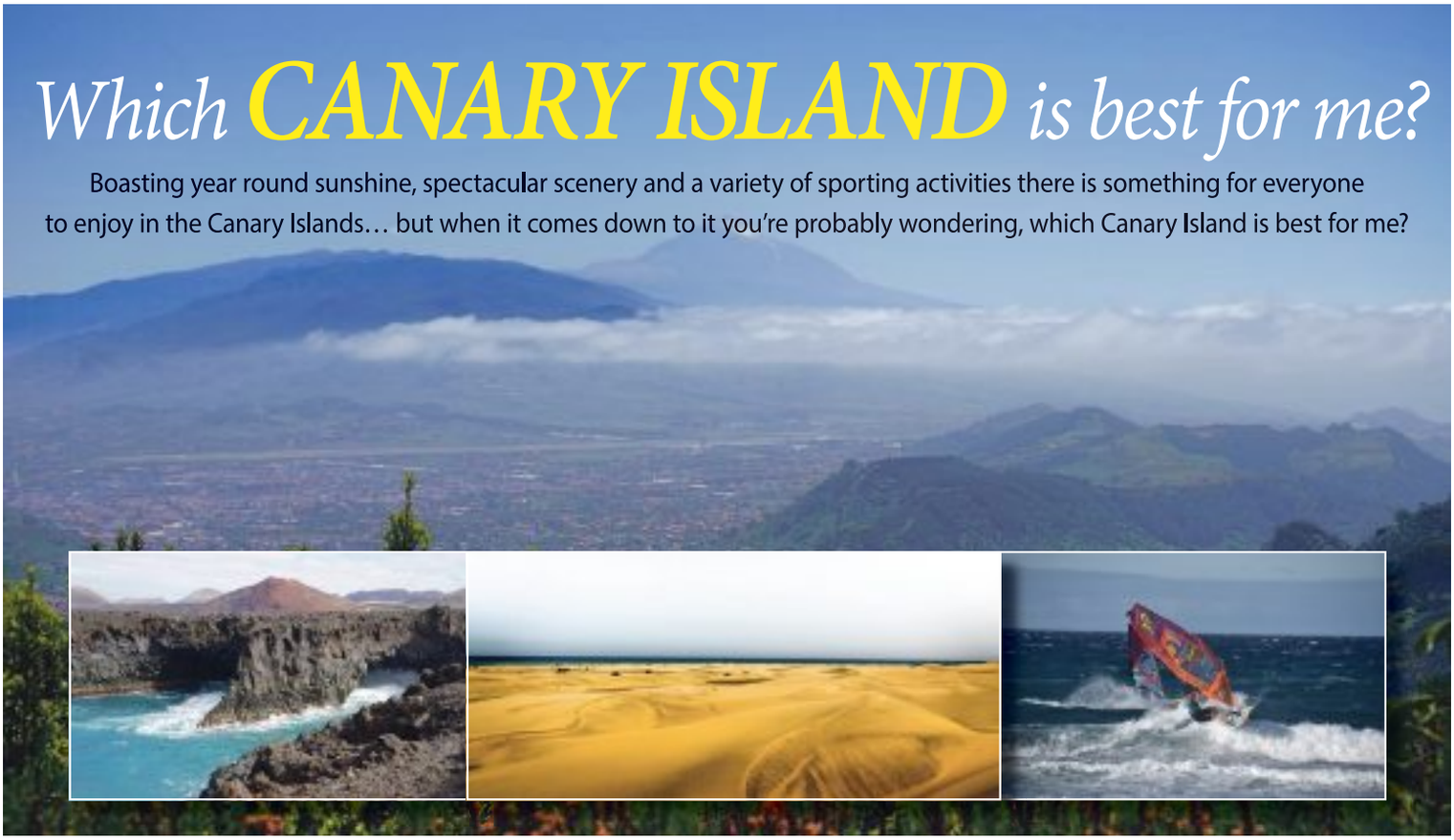
Which CANARY ISLAND is best for me?

Boasting year round sunshine, spectacular scenery and a variety of sporting activities there is something for everyone to enjoy in the Canary Islands… but when it comes down to it you're probably wondering, which Canary Island is best for me?



Tenerife

The largest and busiest of the Islands dominated by the dormant volcano Mt. Teide. You can take a cable car to the top to enjoy the panoramic views of the island and beyond. Tenerife gives an opportunity to be part of the hustle and bustle associated with a tourist resort, with cosmopolitan cities, historic towns and beautiful beaches but it also offers peace and tranquillity, great food from traditional Spanish tapas to modern experimental cuisine, being the only Canary Island to have Michelin star restaurants.

Gran Canaria

Similar to Tenerife this island has family-friendly resorts with a stark, serene backdrop. Endless white beaches distinguish Gran Canaria from the other islands so if sun-bathing is your activity of choice this is the island for you. From lively busy beaches, to quiet, tucked away coves and stretches of dunes. It is also home to the green leafy terrain in the north and rugged mountainous areas in the centre. There is a variety of activities, from hiking, cycling and water-sports widely available.

Lanzarote

If you prefer a less 'touristy' destination then Lanzarote may be for you, The locals have prevented politicians from creating high rise resorts, this is a much calmer island to be. Sports is where it comes to its own with runners, cyclists and board sports. Lanzarote is a paradise for windsurfing and is also great for surfing, with some of the biggest and best waves in Europe. Parascending, jet skiing, water skiing, a trip on a speedboat are offered at major resorts. Banana boats, pedalos and kayaks are also available on many beaches and are great activities for families.

Fuerteventura

The windiest of the islands means it's perfect for kiteboarders and windsurfers. Desert beaches, turquoise waters and that north wind makes it the perfect island for water sport enthusiasts. It is also the most popular choice for sunbathers who prefer a more even tan, if au-natural is not your thing choose a beach close to the resorts.

La Gomera

Photographers will truly appreciate this island with its wild environment, palm groves, rain forest and plunging ravines, it is an island of spectacular beauty. All this scenery makes getting around by car difficult and therefore there are plenty of walking routes and not many roads. Perfect for hikers and strollers. The main event here though is watching the sunset, drink in hand. This really is for those who prefer to embrace Mother Nature and escape the masses.

La Palma

Thought to be the prettiest of the Canary islands, with luscious scenery hike across the national park or through water tunnels. Be sure to take an astronomy tour and stargaze into the stunning star filled sky.

El Hierro

The smallest of the Canary Islands, it is the most mysterious of them all. With some of the best diving available, spot turtles, tuna and dolphins. You can only visit via a ferry from Tenerife but with an almost magical forest and small ancient settlements make this a worthwhile, intriguing island. It truly is an unspoilt island.

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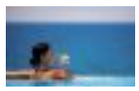

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community

Abbey WI

holds its Cream Tea at "Bury-by-the-Sea"

Most W.Is. don't meet in August but Abbey has traditionally held a cream tea, originally in member's gardens but like Topsy it has grown. This year it had a seaside theme and was held in Bury village hall on August 3rd. Bunting was up, sand and deckchairs were out and tables themed with seaside buckets complete with flags, shells, windmills and rock. The committee are indebted to Jenny Youds who took the theme to heart, shopped and constructed very detailed props to give the hall authenticity. Members of other W.Is. had been invited and Abbey was pleased to welcome visitors from Holme, Ramsey and Ramsey St. Marys and the Federation chairman Josette.

The 50 ladies received an iced cone from the ice-cream man whilst the president asked them to stretch their imaginations as the weather was wet and windy (although on reflection typical British seaside weather but possibly why no-one arrived in their bikini!) to a hot and balmy day on a promenade! The members were then given 15 minutes to complete the competition – 10 miniature seaside items hidden inside a plastic drinks bottle filled with sand. The idea was to shake the bottle and name the items without removing the lid!! A team from Holme won – identifying 9 items correctly and each received a themed mug as a prize. A fabulous tea followed; members of Abbey W.I. put on excellent refreshments.

A huge thank you to Betty White and her team for making and serving cups of tea and to Doreen and Marjory for their sterling work in washing up. Then, after the raffle, the decks were cleared, ready for the afternoon's interactive art. Tanya had visited in January and was a big hit with the members. This time we were to make a card with a suitably seaside theme, following her instructions to cut, colour, stick and arrange. There was much discussion, periods of almost silence (unheard of in the W.I.!) as people concentrated, gasped with dismay as cutting didn't quite go to plan and finally a rendition of "I do like to be beside the seaside" as with a certain amount of relief the cards were completed. Even those purporting not to be "arty" had made a good job of the activity. The competition – an interesting item made from shells – was won by Pam Coulson who was presented with a box of chocolates in the shape of shells. It was a friendly, busy afternoon with the chance to chat with our W.I. neighbours.

Since then we have held a very successful coffee morning at the new and smart venue of the Old Nene golf club and lunch at the Windmill in Somersham. Our next meeting is on 7th September 2:00 at Bury village hall and is the one meeting of the year when the committee have a rest and the meeting is planned by the members. This year we have been asked to bring along a plate of food to share and told that the topic is suitable for husbands too. Why not come along and join us, you would be very welcome, the competition is a piece of aircraft memorabilia – that gives a clue to the afternoon's subject!!

For further details ring Karen Prestage, President of Abbey W.I. on 01487 813848

FRAUD WATCH!

Misleading missed delivery cards posted through letterboxes

Residents are being warned about 'something for you' cards arriving through letterboxes designed to look like they have come from Royal Mail.

The cards which lack the Royal Mail logo look almost identical to the 'something for you' slips that are posted through homes when a delivery can't be made.

To organise a redelivery the cards urge recipients to call a 0208 number, which is not registered to Royal Mail. After ringing the number the automated message asks for your details and consignment number

A Royal Mail spokesperson told the Express: "The Royal Mail security team is looking into this incident as a matter of urgency. Customers should check delivery cards very carefully to ensure they are genuine, and remain vigilant. Although this card is similar to one of our Something For You cards, the Royal Mail logo is crucially missing".

"Customers should also consider whether they are expecting a delivery from the company named on the card".

Whilst Action Fraud have not received any reports at present, missed

delivery cards have been around for a while and come in different formats.

If in doubt, do not call the number provided, give your card details or personal information and get in contact with us.

Crowds packed Ramsey as the 1940's v
bringing tourism, trade an
As ever, the hugely successful 1940
Wood Lane Camp, where re
retailers combined to for
Ramsey's eve

More than 8,000 visitors were treated to a display of vintage treats from cars to dancing and clothes to hairstyles on Saturday and Sunday.

While many attend to be transported back in time, the aim of the show seems to be bringing the 1940's into the future with living history stalls allowing visitors to experience the sounds, sights and even smells of the 1940's in a modern setting.

The event was also an opportunity for the organisers to help raise funds for local heritage organisations, national bodies such as the Royal British Legion (with some local chapters regarding the event as the biggest fundraising event of the year) and the camp itself, with the restoration of the drill hall continuing.

What did they think?

Throughout the weekend, there were hundreds of re-enactors sharing their stories and exhibiting historic pieces of memorabilia including working military vehicles, not to mention a parade of civilian models from a similar era.

The military models, alongside a host of re-enactors, also treated the crowds to a re-enactment of a battle during the Second World War on the European front between forces and German soldiers.

weekend continued its historic success
d triumph to the local area
's Weekend drew thousands to the
evellers and re-enactors and
rm the crowning glory of
ent calendar.

Thanks to Warboys' Bill Hensley, who sent in this snap of himself with some of the Big-Top's 1940's style performers

Along with the re-enactment, visitors also had the chance to shop until they dropped, with a wide array of stalls from all over the country selling everything from genuine 1940's gear to modern Blu-Ray DVD's and all in between. Those looking for a dance took to the big-top, where the sounds of Memphis Belle and others rang from the stage as plenty took to the dance-floor to swing along to the music.

A few snippets from the day

Stella, Vintage vehicle enthusiast: We're here with a 1959 Morris Minor Traveller. She's an absolute beauty, we've restored her to the best of our ability, original wood and everything, and we absolutely love it. It's such a pleasure to be out here with all these old vehicles.

Malcolm, Re-enactor: The attraction to this is the feel of the 1940's: The comradeship, meeting the other people you meet every year, just the fun of it!

Thomas, re-enactor: I like being dressed up as a German!

Martha, visitor & mum: Its actually really nice for my two boys, they really enjoy all the soldiers running around and the old cars, so it's a good day out for the family.

community

Ramsey library

Friends of Ramsey Library

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge at Ramsey library is now almost over. During the holidays, many primary school children have been discussing the books they have read with young (and not so young) volunteers and staff at the library. Six books was the target and hopefully most children will have reached that before the end of the challenge and have filled up their folder with stickers, including one very stinky one! The theme this year is Animal Agents and to further enhance this, Jo from the Dogs Trust paid a visit. It was a very busy afternoon as around thirty children and their accompanying adults heard Jo read a story and made a dog's face from a paper bag or a paper plate. They also searched around the library for six toy dogs, answered questions about them and then spoke to Jo about how to interact safely with dogs. It was a very hectic but enjoyable time.

Ram Jam is fast approaching. October 14th is the date to write in your diary, "Must go to Ram Jam." The children's book festival is FREE, although tickets are needed and can be obtained from the library later in September. So far the following authors will be attending, Matt Brown (Compton Valance series), Alison Limentani and James Nicol (The Apprentice Witch). Others are just confirming their times. Lion Learners are also making an appearance once again, as they are extremely popular. Look out for posters in the library and around town and information on Facebook. Don't miss out.

Save your poppies

The Friends of Ramsey Library, Ramsey Library Board and Ramsey Library Staff are planning to mark the end of WW1 during November 2018. We have various ideas and would appreciate your help for two of these. During the last two weeks of November, we would like you to donate your poppies from this year's Poppy Appeal, so we can use them in some sort of art work next year. The library will be a collection point for them.

The second request is for people to knit or crochet poppies to be displayed at various places around town. Any pattern can be used. I can email three different knitted ones or copies can be obtained from Ramsey library from September 5th. They can be handed in throughout the year but before the end of September 2018. The library will be a drop off point. We would also like contributions of black buttons for the centres of the poppies and poppy red yarn.

Our ideas are very much in their infancy and we do have more but these are the most urgent. Please get in touch at ramlibfr@talktalk.net if you would like to be involved or help in any way.

SERVES 6

RAMSEY WALLED GARDEN RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Chard and Cheese tart with caramelised onions

Visitors to the Walled Garden often ask what you can do with chard. Basically you can use it in any recipe that uses spinach. In this tart, you can substitute spinach for the chard.

INGREDIENTS

500 gm of shortcrust pastry

2 large onions thinly sliced
55gm butter
500 gm chard or spinach
3 large eggs
120gm Gruyère (or you could use cheddar)

METHOD

1. Preheat oven to gas mark 5 or 190oC
2. Line a 23cm tart tin with the pastry. Bake blind for about 20-25 minutes.
3. Fry the onions very slowly until they are soft and slightly golden. Set aside.
4. Strip the chard from the stalks. Chop the stalks into small sections. Cut the leaves into thin shreds. Bring a pan of water to the boil and cook the stems for about 2 mins. Take out of the pan.
   Then do the same with the leaves for a minute or so. Squeeze as much water out of the leaves as you can.
5. Grate the cheese. Break the eggs into a bowl and mix with the chard, chard stalks and cheese. Spread into the pastry case.
6. Cover with the caramelised onions and bake for about 25-30 minutes.

HAVE YOU TRIED MAKING ONE OF OUR RECIPES?
If you have, we'd like to know your thoughts!
Please contact us - mail@ramseyandwarboysreporter.co.uk

UNIVERSITY OF THE 3RD AGE

KEEP FIT HAVING FUN

By Enid Hubbard – Ramsey and District U3A

Life is busy, there is never enough time to fit everything in that needs to be done and so sometimes important things get left for another day, another week or another month. Exercise seems to fit into this category even though we are constantly being reminded how necessary it is to keep fit especially when we get older.

Ramsey U3A offers five groups to counteract a sedentary lifestyle along with fun and laughter and the odd lunch at a local public house.

Cycling

Cycling is the right group if you still have a bicycle and are willing to explore the wonderful fenland countryside, which is thankfully very flat. Linda Van Der Meer is the group leader and organizes varied expeditions near and far often ending with lunch before the ride home. The group also transport their bikes by car to places like Grafham Water before cycling round the lakes.

If you prefer your exercise to be taken indoors our Table Tennis group is the one for you. They meet at Bury Village Hall and have about 15 members one of whom could not even last for one game when they started the group and now plays for the full 2 hours. Malcolm Jackson is the group leader and makes sure everyone enjoys their matches every month.

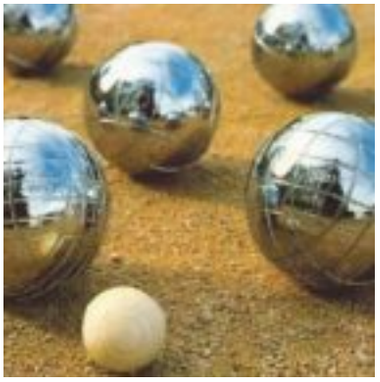
Walking

Should you enjoy a brisk walk Ros Wilson leads our Walking Group and devotes many hours planning and walking the route before the group meet together. Recently they visited the Godmanchester Nature Reserve for a walk and a look at the wild life. The group often stop for lunch before returning. Perhaps a more gentle form of exercise would be a walk across a field at your own pace in which case the Metal Detecting Group would fit the bill. The nature of this group means equipment is necessary along with membership of the National Council of Metal Detecting. There are strict rules to be followed but who knows what treasure is waiting to be discovered?

Petanque

For those who really don't want to walk too far or for too long our Petanque Group is just the thing. Recently formed this is proving to be a very popular group. Petanque is a gentle relaxing game played on a sand or gravel court and is similar to bowls but the ball is thrown rather than rolled. They play at The Five Alls in Benwick and have a thriving membership.

So no matter how energetic you may or may not feel Ramsey and District U3A has just the group for you. If you are semi-retired or retired and want to come along and see what we have to offer please join us on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm at the Ramsey Community Centre in Stocking Fen Road for our general meeting. You can also find us online at www. ramseyu3a.org. uk.



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community

What an amazing month it's been for...

Your neighbourhood office was delighted with the response to summer activities co-ordinated from their office base at 25 Great Whyte. First there was the BOSH (Bring On School Holidays) summer play scheme for 5 to 10 year olds which launched its fifth year with t-shirt art and face-painting. The scheme ran from the Cricket Club which means we have both indoor and outside space for summer fun. We offered a variety of activities across a two week period ending with a trip to Ark Wildlife Park in Lincolnshire. During the trip Jamie Binding and Amber Curr received prizes for their attendance. Jamie is the only child to have attended all five years of BOSH starting at 5 years old. Amber has attended four years as she wasn't old enough for year one.

Val Fendley, who manages the play scheme on behalf of Your Neighbourhood Office said "It's been wonderful having both Jamie and Amber with us across the years, we have watched their confidence develop as they try out the full range of activities we offer and they have definitely formed new friendships too. They're delightful young people and interact really well with the staff team".

We monitor feedback from the attendees each day to assess which activities they like best. This year the favourite session across the fortnight was Magical Mythical Menagerie a session led by local author James Nicol. This was also a particular favourite of mine as the children got to dress me up as a witch complete with cauldron, spell book, black cat and broom stick.

2017 was also the fifth year of running Toddler Time soft play sessions. For the first time we ran a session in August and had a bumper turnout. Parents really did seem to appreciate having something for the younger members of the family during the long summer holiday period. This is something we will now look to repeat in future years. A big thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help at these sessions.

CRUNCH youth project for the 11+ age group got to enjoy their summer trips once the BOSH play scheme ended as the same staff team moved across to work with the older age group. The young people help to plan the activities and chose to attend Gauntlet Auto Project for some off road motorcycling, Pidley Bowling Alley for some competitive fun, Ferry Meadows for a BBQ/picnic and pedalo boats and then finally Stanwick Lakes for their outdoor activities including an assault course and zip wire. It's fair to say these days out were enjoyed by the whole group. Thanks to Ramsey Community Bus for their support offering us very affordable transport options.

Now that the summer programme has drawn to a close we're busy planning for the term time clubs. BOSH and CRUNCH clubs return on Thursday 14th September and operate from The Cricket Club on Cricketfield Lane, Ramsey PE26 1BG. BOSH for age 5-10s is from 4:30 to 6pm and costs £1.50 per child; CRUNCH for 11-16s is from 7pm to 9pm and costs £2.

For further information on any of our family friendly activities you can contact us at the Neighbourhood Office 01487 814897 or email Val Fendley, val.rntoffice@gmail.com.

Other activities coming to you from Your Neighbourhood Office this September include: Phoenix training courses – From Hobbies to Employment. This autumn we offering informal IT courses about keeping safe online as well as creative arts. If you're wanting to get back into work why not come and develop your confidence and learn new skills. Sessions are FREE but must be booked. We're offering pottery, dance, photography, art journals and general craft. Contact Alison for more information on 01487 814897 or email rntprojectmanager@gmail.com

In addition to this there's also Heritage Open Day, Sunday 10th September from 11am until 5pm. All the usual heritage sites will be open, some with added extras and all for FREE. Why not pop along to find out more.

Your Neighbourhood Office
25 Great Whyte, Ramsey, Cambs, PE26 1HG • Tel: 01487 814897

'From Hobbies to Employment'

FREE

Creative Arts

Wanting to get back into work? Come and develop your confidence and learn new skills. Sessions are **FREE** but **MUST BE BOOKED**. Held at Ramsey Cricket Club, 10am - 12noon. Please wear suitable clothing for courses and for the photography sessions bring your camera/smart phone and any user manuals.

Thursday	Friday
Pottery - 14th Sept	Photography - 15th Sept
Pottery - 21st Sept	Photography - 22nd Sept
Pottery - 28th Sept	Photography - 29th Sept
Dance - 5th Oct	Art Journals - 6th Oct
Dance- 12th Oct	Art Journals - 13th Oct

Thursday	Friday
Dance - 19th Oct	Art Journals- 20th Oct
Craft - 2nd Nov	Craft - 3rd Nov
Promotion - 9th Nov	

Please note this is a provisional timetable - may be subject to change.

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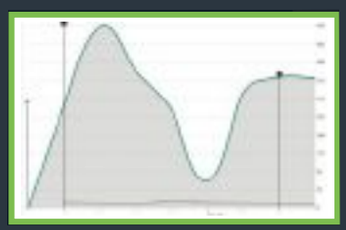

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business

HIRE FOR CULTURE, TRAIN FOR SKILLS

Cultural fit is a concept that can be hard to define but everyone knows when it is missing.

Simply put, cultural fit is the likelihood that a person will be able to effortlessly live your business core values and behaviors.

If you assess cultural fit throughout your recruitment process, you will ensure you hire people who will become fantastic in their new roles. This will certainly help drive long-term growth and success for your business.

What this means is that when you hire on both job fit and cultural fit, you'll find that your new team members are:

- Faster to start really becoming part of your team
- Start contributing quicker than others
- Are happier in their new role
- Tend to stay longer with your business
- Become brand ambassadors
- Are likely to become 'star performers'

When you make recruiting decisions purely on skills and don't take into account the cultural fit of the candidate, you may find:

- The candidate doesn't fit in with your existing team
- They will quickly become dissatisfied with their role
- Will not adhere to the values and behaviors expected of them
- May end up leaving through resignation or termination

Top Tip: Give applicants a chance to lead the conversation.

We've all been to interviews where the interviewer sticks to an approved list of 10 questions. Instead, hand the interviewee the keys. See how they communicate without prompts or guides. This can provide an opportunity for vibrant personalities to shine. If the interviewee has difficulty conversing with you of their own accord, that can be a sign that their personality doesn't fit the role.

Do You Know What Your Core Values Are?

It's important as the leader to know yourself well enough to know what your true or core values are. If you discover that you actually value timeliness over creativity, that's your prerogative. When you started your business, how did you want it to run? What did you want to motivate people? Don't worry about being "wrong" when you answer these questions. The important thing is to answer them.

Perhaps, respect, open communication and on-time delivery of service are your core values. For another business, it may be delivering your products at the lowest cost. Whatever your core values are – live them and be sure to communicate and promote them at every opportunity.

Small business hit by staircase tax as borrowing plummets

Small firms across England and Wales are being hit with backdated business rates hikes because of changes to the way the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) assesses staircases, and the FSB responds to the Bank of England (BoE)'s announcement of a decrease in loans to smaller businesses.

Previously, firms that occupied multiple floors within a commercial property would receive a single business rates bill covering all occupied areas. Following a Supreme Court ruling1, businesses now receive individual rates bills for each floor they occupy, provided the areas between the floors are communal.

Firms will continue to receive a single rates bill if they occupy multiple floors but can access them via a private staircase or walkway.

The change will result in substantially increased business rates for thousands of firms. The increases are backdated to April 2015 in England and April 2010 in Wales.

Mike Cherry, National Chairman at the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), commented that "This latest twist in the business rates tale serves as yet another reminder of what a regressive system our entrepreneurs are faced with when it comes to this tax.

"How can it be right that you're hit with a massively inflated bill simply because the staircase you use is shared and not private? And these bills are backdated, stinging firms that are still waiting on delivery of relief measures announced more than five months ago.

"Enough is enough. Any sensible person can see that the business rates regime is fundamentally flawed, penalising firms before they made their first penny in turnover, let alone profit. A fundamental review of the tax is long overdue."

Additional trouble hit the small business market when the BoE announced a £200 million decrease in loans to smaller businesses in July.

Following the announcement, Mike Cherry blamed a number of factors, including the expected impact of Brexit, saying:

"What we're starting to see is a convergence of factors that could seriously threaten small business access to finance across the country. On the one hand you have reports that the European Investment Fund is already starting to pull up the drawbridge. On the other, the Funding for Lending scheme coming to a close in January. We look forward to feeding in to the Treasury's financing growth consultation to ensure we have the right mechanisms to replace these sources of support post-Brexit. They represent vital lifelines for ambitious and innovative small businesses aspiring to grow and scale-up."

PAYING STAFF - THE BASIC LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

If you're taking on your first employee, or even if you already employ a few staff, it's a good idea to make sure you understand your legal obligations with regards to paying the people who work for you.

Below you'll find a list of the basics you need to remember when deciding what salary or hourly rate to pay your staff and how to administer payment.

This list is about normal pay for doing the job, and doesn't include added legal obligations you have like sick pay, maternity pay, holiday pay, redundancy pay and pension contributions.

In respect of pay only, your employees have the following rights:

- Itemised pay statements, provided on or before the date they are paid
- Not to be subjected to unauthorised deductions from pay or demands for payment
- Equal pay and benefits if doing the same, similar, equivalent or equal value work to that done by someone of the opposite sex
- Not to be discriminated against on grounds of any of the protected characteristics under the Equality Act – sex, gender reassignment, pregnancy or maternity, being married or a civil partner, race, colour, nationality, national or ethnic origins, disability, age, sexual orientation, or religion or belief
- To be paid at least the applicable National Living Wage or National Minimum Wage appropriate to their age group as set by the government from time to time
- (For part time or fixed term employees) not to be treated less favourably than comparable full timers or permanent staff

Of course setting the right rates of pay, deciding how to reward good performance or long service, motivating staff while remaining cost effective and streamlined are all issues that require proper consideration, and as you grow, you may want to consider a more formal salary structure and a salary review mechanism. But getting the basic legal fundamentals right is an essential building block for a reward system that works well in your business.

If you want some advice about how and what to pay staff in your small business, do get in touch

business

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- Tenant Responsibilities
- Property Repairs/Maintenance
- Environmental Health/Housing Enforcement
- Referral's to appropriate Tenancy Support Services

If you are thinking of issuing a Notice to your tenants due to problems that we may be able to help with then please contact our Landlord/Rent Solutions Officers on 01480 388444 for help and advice first. We will endeavour to find an alternative way to resolve an issue and can discuss various options that may be available to you.

01480 388444

danielle.mahoney@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

This is a service being provided through a partnership of Cambridge and Peterborough City Councils, and East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire District Councils.

CUTTING YOUR COSTS

By Dean Crago

By failing to plan are you planning to fail?

THINK! PLAN! FOLLOW!

When it comes to cutting your costs and increasing your profits there are a range of things you can look at.

The overall £ cost of each of the services you consume is a natural place to start.

Be it energy, insurance, waste removal or something as simple as the price of the paper in the toilet. It makes perfect sense to review the cost. If you can find it cheaper you save the difference and make more profit. Brilliant, instant results with great satisfaction.

As important as this is it is just one consideration. Other factors will be even more effective in reducing your costs if you take the time to work on them. There in lies the problem, you have to take the time to think about it, plan it and then you have to follow it.

Have you made a plan for your personal or business finances?

It's kind of like recycling. This is a crude analogy so bear with me. You take the consumed item, put it in the recycling bin, away it goes to get another life as something else, thus saving the environment in the process. This is like the services you must consume as a person, family or business. You cannot avoid using them, therefore you have to do so in the best way you possibly can.

The full process, however, is to reduce, reuse and recycle. First you have to cut out what you do not need in the first place and then put to better use the resources you already control. In the financial sense this will avoid significant upfront expense and allow you to maximise the return on the resources you have.

So if you do not have a financial plan it is imperative that you take the time to make one. If this is not your strong point then seek help.

In an age where people desperately need/want to get out of debt, secure their pensions and live in relative financial independence or improve their business' bottom line, a plan greatly improves your chances of achieving such a good financial outcome.

The plan should include your life goals and objectives; your current financial position; a short-term and lifetime financial cash flow projection; and analysis of how your financial position might change.

If you would like any further help with making a personal financial plan then do not hesitate to contact me for free assistance on **07929 205661** or **01487 813111**

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ONE TO WATCH
Logan Lucky
REBECCA BLUNT

The story of a blue-collar family from the hills of West Virginia, whose clan has been famous for its bad luck for nearly 90 years, deciding to bring his life back on track – so he tries to steal $14 million from the Charlotte Motor Speedway on the busiest race day of the year. A quintessential heist plot, and this month's choice pick from the cinema.

Directed by Academy Award-winner Steven Soderbergh (Ocean's Eleven, Magic Mike, Traffic), Logan Lucky shines with an all-star cast including (deep breath in...) Channing Tatum, Adam River, Riley Keough, Daniel Craig, Hilary Swank, Seth MacFarlane, Katherine Waterston, Sebastian Stan, and Brian Gleeson (WHEW!)

For me, this has all the key ingredients for a great heist movie – a nice bend of comedic action and serious consequences, a cast of seriously unique characters (you must see, and more importantly hear, Daniel Craig's pyromaniacal jailbird) and just the right amount of thrills and spills to set it apart..

ONE TO LISTEN TO
P!nk
WHAT ABOUT US

Back and better than ever, Pink (styled as P!ink but easier to read the normal way, I feel…) is getting ready to release her first new album in five years, and the first single from that has already hit the top of the charts.

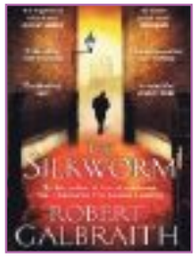
With her ever-powerful vocals matched with a stylistically superb video (ever so important in the modern streaming market), What About Us was designed to shoot up the charts and did just that on August 10th as the US based singer made her grand comeback, having not been heard from since last year's Just Like Fire, which P!nk released in support of the Alice Through The Looking Glass film.

Releasing the artwork on Instagram, the singer wrote "I'm certifiably, insanely proud of this album"

"It's been a while, and I'm grateful for all the years we've had. Looking forward to the next chapter with you."

What About Us serves as the lead single from her upcoming seventh studio album Beautiful Trauma, which is out on October 13. It's P!nk's first album in five years, since 2012's The Truth About Love.

ONE TO READ
Cormoran Strike Trilogy
BY ROBERT GALBRAITH



We live in the age of the TV/Movie tie in. Just this month, we have Stephen King's The Tower and Ruth Rendall's chilling Snowman in theatres, not to mention the ever hyped Game of Thrones on Tv. Now, we have Strike, based on the Cormoran Strike novels by J.K Rowling (published under alter ego Robert Galbraith).

With this in mind, we suggest giving the three novels (The Cookoo's Calling, The Silkworm and Career of Evil) a read this month.

The magnificently named Cormoron Strike, a war veteran turned private detective operating out of a tiny office in London's Denmark Street. Wounded both physically and psychologically, his unique insight and his background as a Special Investigation Branch Investigator prove crucial in solving three complex cases through three books.

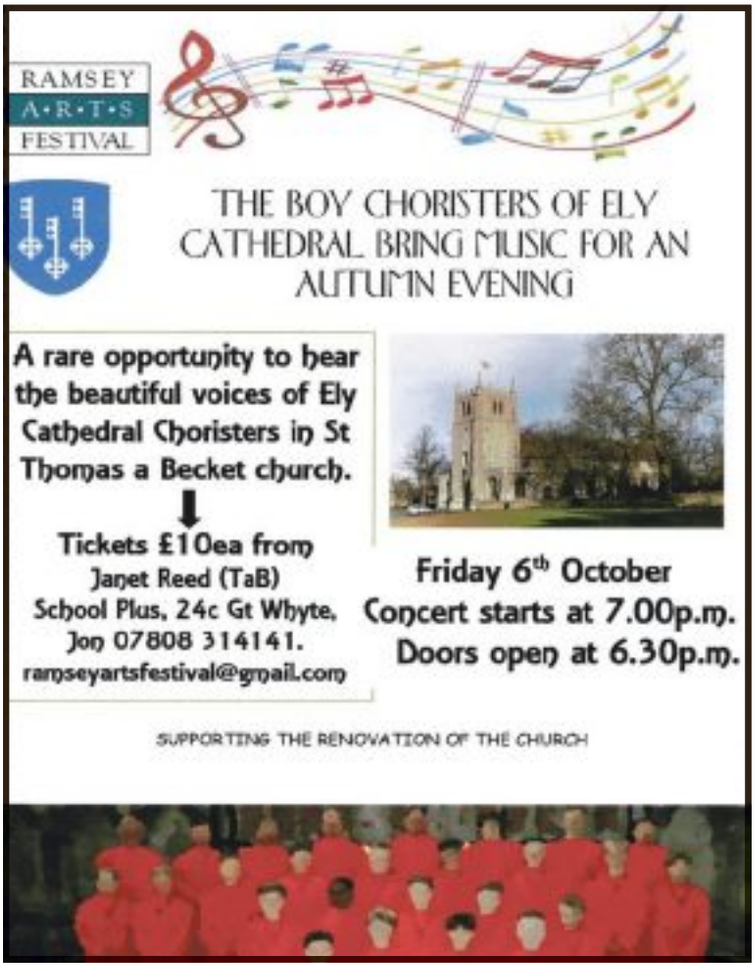
Praised by the critics and with up to six more books on the way, now is the time to get into this new addition to the British detective saga – one for the ages, if Rowling's earlier work is any indication!

ONE TO VISIT
Heritage Sunday
RAMSEY & AREAS

A local one for you this month, and what better way than to spend a Sunday than out in the sun visiting one of our fantastic Heritage sites.

Everything will be on offer throughout Ramsey's take on the National Heritage Open Day, with a free 1960's vintage bus to ferry you from one attraction to the other, which includes such sights as the Ramsey Mortuary Chapel, the Ramsey Rural Museum, the Lady Chapel, the Walled Garden (complete with brand new glasshouse) and a special appearance by the Warboys Archaeology Project!

Of course, you won't want to miss out on the stalwart favourite of the day – the Rammies have hid themselves again and it's up to the most eagle-eyed amongst us to spot them! Find out more about how to take part in the Find the Ram competition, and much more about what is going on during the Heritage Sunday on the 10th September at www.discoverramsey.co.uk.



ONE TO WATCH
Don't Tell the Bride
Review by KATIE BROADBENT

It's back, and even more ridiculous than ever. The show where naïve fiancées allow their partners to plan their dream wedding. The groom is given a budget of £14,000 and only three weeks to plan every tiny detail for the big day. The fiancées instead, are usually carted back to their parents, where they eagerly anticipate the big day.

That's right. It's Don't Tell the Bride - the series which moved from the BBC over to E4 this year for an 18-episode series. So far, the new show has shown us; weddings on banana boats; a Jason Donovan & Kylie Minogue Neighbours re-enactment; and even an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most pigs to attend a wedding.

With the programme proving to be even more bonkers than before, you certainly don't want to miss your invite to some of the craziest weddings this summer.

Don't Tell the Bride – Wednesdays at 9pm on E4.

UPDATE ON RAMSEY MARKET

Your Neighbourhood Office

Welcome to all from 'Your Neighbourhood Office' – please note the change of brand to help promote the service that continues to be offered from Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust.

We operate from 25 Great Whyte directly next door to the library and are responsible for the production of Ramsey Neighbourhood News, run Job Search in the library, Phoenix training courses, the Dogs Meet community café, BOSH children's club and play scheme, CRUNCH youth project, Toddler Time soft play for under-fives and more recently we have just been awarded the Market Charter to bring back the market to Ramsey Town Centre. We are also the accountable body for a variety of events, such as the recent CREATE-FEST music festival.

You can expect to see the new 'Your neighbourhood Office' branding that will make it easier for local residents, businesses and visitors to know where to go to get more information about any of our projects.

Dates for your diary - just to make you aware of the following important dates:

Tuesday 15th August – autumn issue of Your Ramsey Neighbourhood News is out for delivery, brimmed full of great local stories – copies delivered locally and available from Ramsey Library and local outlets.

Saturday 9th September – to celebrate Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust obtaining the licence for the market charter in Ramsey we are holding a launch event on Saturday 9th September – local food and suppliers will be available including local groups will have an opportunity to publicise their group and help fund raise. Look forward to seeing you on the 9th September – 9am-2pm on Great Whyte (possible road closure in place)

Sunday 10th September – Heritage day in Ramsey – lots of information on the event in the Autumn Ramsey Neighbourhood News and the Library

Monday 18th September –Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust AGM –6.30pm in Ramsey Library – anyone welcome to attend and we have vacancies for two Trustees on our Board.

Saturday 23rd September – Festival of Crafts – Great Whyte (possible road closure)

Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust looks forward to developing our relationship with Ramsey residents and businesses. If you have any enquiries about any of our projects please do not hesitate to contact us:

Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust:
rntchair@gmail.com|anna.rntoffice@gmail.com |val.rntoffice@gmail.com
Ramsey Job Search & Phoenix: rntprojectmanager@gmail.com
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Your Neighbourhood Office

Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust, Ramsey Library, 25 Great Whyte, Ramsey, Cambs., PE26 1HG | Telephone: 01487 814897

Update on Ramsey Community Market – date for your diary

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Saturday 9th September – to celebrate Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust obtaining the licence for the market charter in Ramsey, we are holding a launch event on Saturday 9th September – pitches for local food producers and suppliers will be available at very reasonable rates. We also want to include the local community groups and so are offering a pitch to anyone who wishes to take advantage of this opportunity to publicise their group and help fund raise. To book a pitch or receive more information on prices and future market dates **please email Annie on market.rntoffice@gmail.com or leave a message at the office on 01487 814897 or call 07717 471974.**

We look forward to seeing you on the 9th September – 9am-2pm on Great Whyte (possible road closure in place)

Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust looks forward to developing our relationship with Ramsey residents and businesses. If you have any enquiries about any of our projects please do not hesitate to contact us

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opinion

COUNCIL WHO'S WHO

As the leadership of Huntingdon District Council changes, we take a look at who's in charge!

Councillor Graham Bull

Executive Leader

Following Cllr Robin Howe's resignation last month, Cllr Graham Bull assumed the leadership, a step up from his position as Deputy Leader. An Old Hurst resident who also serves as vice-chairman of the Parish Council, he represents Somersham at district level and was first elected in 2011.

Councillor Ryan Fuller

Deputy Executive Leader

Having held a number of positions within the Executive Cabinet during his district council career, Cllr Ryan Fuller hails from St Ives and was first elected in 2012. One of the youngest councillors, he also continues his former role as Executive Member for Housing and Planning.

Councillor Johnathan Gray

Executive Member for Strategic Resources

Also continuing in his former role is Cllr Gray, who brings his thirteen years of council experience to bear as Executive Member for Strategic Resources. As de-facto chancellor for Huntingdonshire, he marshals the financial resources of the Council.

Councillor Robin Howe

Executive Councillor for Devolution and Growth

Having stepped down to focus on his role as Deputy Mayor for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, Cllr Howe remains on the committee in a devolution focused position that should suit his new office.

Councillor Richard West

Chairman of the Council

Having stepped into the experienced shoes of our own Cllr Peter Bucknell, Cllr West takes on this non-political, more civic role within the council, which includes the responsibility of chairing the full council meetings and representing the council at official functions.

Vara Welcomes Government's Additional Funding for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Roads

Shailesh Vara MP has welcomed the announcement by the Department for Transport (DfT) of £3.5 million of funding for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough roads. This follows a bid for funds by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council which was backed by Mr Vara. The funds will go to repair drought damaged roads.

The funding comes from £75 million which has been allocated to local councils nationally following a bidding process to the DfT's Local Highways Maintenance Challenge Fund Tranche 2A. The Challenge Fund is one part of the £ 6.1 billion being provided to local highway authorities in England, outside London, between 2015/2016 and 2020/2021 to help keep Britain moving and the economy growing.

Mr Vara wrote in strong support of the bid which will address the problem of fen roads being at greater risk of deterioration due to their construction on fen soil that is prone to subsidence. The funds will be spent on deeper treatment to badly affected routes and will make a real difference to make roads better for motorists.

Following the announcement, Mr Vara said:

"This is excellent news and I am very pleased that the Government has backed the Council's scheme for fen roads with significant funding. The roads provide vital vehicular access for many communities and their improved condition will ensure safer and better travel for motorists.

"The Council's bid was one of many and it is encouraging to see that the Government has recognised our local need and provided the necessary funds."

The money will go towards improving roads which will cut congestion, reduce journey times and improve reliability as well as helping to support local businesses and boost economic growth.

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MARY ELIZABETH MAWDESLEY WILL TRUST

Miss Mawdesley was the daughter of the Vicar of Ramsey who died in 1920. She was the aunt of the last Partner in the firm of Serjeant & Son, Solicitors, who bore the name "Serjeant". That is, Mr Robert (Bob) Serjeant who died in 1975.

As a spinster, she devoted her life to good causes and charitable works. Belonging to the family that she did, she had some property which she was able to give towards a charitable endowment. This consisted of eight acres of agricultural land which was rented out and the income used to pay, in accordance with the terms of her Will, charitable donations to the widows (who found themselves in need) in the parishes of Ramsey, Bury and Upwood.

Each year on the "Gooding Day" i.e. the 21st December, the Trustees have handed out money to the beneficiaries. The Trust is not merely charitable since it also supports the upkeep of some graves belonging to Miss Mawdesley's family which can be found in the old churchyard at St Thomas a Becket Church, Ramsey. Accordingly, the income from a one-seventh part of the fund is appropriated towards the upkeep of the Mawdesley graves. In addition, the income from a further one-seventh part of the fund is given each year to the Church Restoration Fund of St Thomas a Becket provided that the Vicar or his substitute preaches on the 28th February each year a sermon in memory of the Mawdesley family (and this has been taken to mean in the memory of Miss Mawdesley herself). Since the graves do not require regular upkeep, the one-seventh part is added each year to the gift to the Church Restoration Fund.

The remaining five-sevenths of the income from the fund is devoted to the making of donations to the widows of the three parishes.

The agricultural land was sold some years ago and invested in a National Savings Income Bond worth £10,000 which currently is generating only a small amount of income, although at one time when interest rates were much higher there was a very healthy substantial income generated by this Bond for the Trust. In addition, over the years, there has been generated income at the rate of 3½% per annum from a War Loan which was recently capitalised as a result of the Government's initiative. This part of the fund is worth £701.

The Trustees decided not to re-invest the 3½% War Loan and use it as income bearing in mind that they may have to restore the £701 worth of capital.

The income of the Trust, because of the low interest rates on the National Savings Income Bond has been approximately £130 a year but since the number of widows claiming has been small, it has been possible to make money available to the widows each year of about £10 and on the 21st December 2016 the Benefit per widow was £10. The Church Restoration Fund received £36.76 on the preaching of the Mawdesley Sermon this year.

The Trustees meet at the beginning of December each year and decide how much money to hand out and Notices are placed in the office of Serjeant & Son, upon the Town & Parish Council Notice Boards and in the Churches at Ramsey, Bury and Upwood, calling for the Benefit to be collected from the office of Serjeant & Son over a period of three days or so running up to Christmas, which usually includes the 21st December (the old "Gooding Day").

There is not very much money to be handed out each year but the additional cash for the widows is usually gratefully received and traditionally people have wanted to collect this Benefit however small. Going back some years, people would be queuing at the office of Serjeant & Son for the amount which was in the region of a few shillings each. This was because the fund consisted at that time of agricultural land which produced very little in the way of rent. If interest rates increase in the future, the amount of the income will of course increase and be available for the benefit of the widows. If a widow is infirm or unable for any reason to be able to collect their Benefit from Serjeant & Son's office at Christmas time, they can appoint a friend or relative to collect the Benefit or their behalf and there is a form handed out for this purpose.

The current Trustees are the Reverend Canon Richard Darmody (the Rector of Ramsey), Mrs Maureen Chapman, the Representatives of the Ramsey Town Council (former overseers of the poor), who are Mr Tony Lavender and Mr Brian Williams, together with whoever are currently the Church Wardens of the Parish Church of St Thomas a Becket.

If any widow wishes to apply for Benefit under the Trust, they should write to the Trustees c/o Serjeant & Son, Solicitors, 101 High Street, Ramsey, PE26 1DA, with brief details of their financial circumstances to be treated in confidence and the Trustees will make a decision at the beginning of December each year as to whether or not they can be added to the list of beneficiaries.

If there is any further information required please contact Mr John Chrisp at Serjeant & Son, telephone 01487 812325 or by e-mail jarc@serjeantandson.co.uk.

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Who made the shortlist?

Have you heard of the New Angle Prize? We hadn't! The bi-annual contest, which has been held since 2009, selects a book for literary merit set in, or influenced by, the region of East Anglia.

The winner is announced on the 6th this month, with the contest offering some of the top work based on East Anglia from the last two years. In honour of the prize giving, we thought we would take a look at each of the nominees

Threads: The Delicate Life of John Craske

Julia Blackburn

Winner of the East Anglian Book of the Year 2015, Julia Blackburn tells the tale of Norfolk fisherman John Craske. Consigned to his bed from illness, he created paintings and later embroideries of the sea, including his huge masterpiece The Evacuation of Dunkirk.

Threads is a book about life and death and the strange country between the two where John Craske seemed to live. It is also about life after death, as Julia's beloved husband Herman, a vivid presence in the early pages of the book, dies before it is finished.

In a gentle meditation on art and fame; on the nature of time and the fact of mortality; and illustrated with Craske's paintings and embroideries, Threads shows, yet again, that Julia Blackburn can conjure a magic that is spellbinding and utterly her own.

The Crime Writer

Jill Dawson

Jill Dawson draws on the mind of the eccentric American novelist Patricia Highsmith for her entry, The Crime Writer. Set in Suffolk in 1964, the story is one of lust, demons and desires, as Highsmith's troubled life is complicated by her writing, an enigmatic young journalist and a secret romance with a married lover.

A double Orange Prize Nominee and current Fens resident, Dawson has penned seven other novels including the much lauded The Great Liver, which was a Richard and Judy Summer Read. She has also edited six anthologies of short stories and poetry, and taught at the University of East Anglia.

Masterfully recreating Highsmith's much exercised fantasies of murder and madness, Dawson probes the darkest reaches of the imagination in this novel - at once a brilliant portrait of a writer and an atmospheric, emotionally charged, riveting tale. Prowlers, sexual obsessives, frauds, imposters, suicides and murderers, all take their moment in this novel with surprising twists and powerful consequences.

The Essex Serpent

Sarah Perry

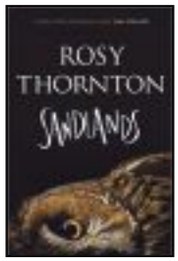
Split between London and an Essex Village in the 1980's, Perry tells the story of Cora Seabourn and Will Ransome, a London widow and local vicar respectively. As they meet, their village is engulfed by rumours that the mythical Essex Serpent, once said to roam the marshes claiming human lives, has returned. Cora, a keen amateur naturalist is enthralled, convinced the beast may be a real undiscovered species. But Will sees his parishioners' agitation as a moral panic, a deviation from true faith.

Top favourite, the Essex Serpent picked up Waterstones Book of the Year 2016 and has been described as one of the most memorable historical novels of the last decade.

Told with exquisite grace and intelligence, this novel is most of all a celebration of love, and the many different guises it can take.

Sandlands

Rosy Thornton



From the white doe appearing through the dark wood to the blue-winged butterflies rising as a cloud in reminder of happier times, the creatures of the Suffolk landscape flit and flicker through the many short stories of Sandlands.

The enigmatic Mr Napier is feeding a fox rescued from the floods; an owl guards a cache of long-lost letters; a nightingale's song echoes the sound of a loved voice; wheeling rooks above the patchwork countryside retrace the arc of a wartime Spitfire; in a Martello tower on a deserted shore Dr Whybrow listens to ghostly whispers. Rosy Thornton is a lecturer in Law and author of contemporary fiction, within which she enjoys exploring family relationships, while in real life she explores the local area with her two "lunatic spaniels".

The sixteen short stories in this collection are all set in and around the village of Blaxhall in coastal Suffolk. Through the landscape and its wildlife, through human and folk memory, the past is linked to the present and generations of lives are intertwined.

Midwinter

Fiona Melrose

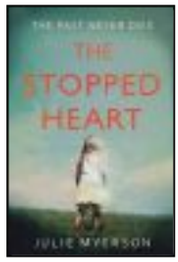
Short- or Long-listed for numerous awards, Midwinter is the story of Suffolk Farmers Landyn and Vale Midwiner, a father and son team Living and working together on land their family has worked for generations. But they are haunted there by a past they have long refused to confront: the death of Cecelia, beloved wife and mother, when Vale was just a child.

Born in South Africa, author Fiona Melrose spent much of her adult life in Suffolk, and has enjoyed careers in academia and political analysis. She is currently working on her third novel, with her second novel Johannesburg available now.

Tender and lyrical, alive to language and nature, Midwinter is a novel about guilt, blame, lost opportunities and, ultimately, it is a story about love and the lengths we will go to find our way home.

The Stopped Heart

Julie Myerson



Set in rural Suffolk, The Stopped Heart begins during a ferocious storm as a red-haired stranger appears in the garden of a small farming cottage. Eliza and her parents take him in, but very soon, it's clear he has no intention of leaving.

A century later, Mary and Graham have experienced every parent's worst nightmare. Now, escaping the memories and the headlines, they have found an idyllic new home. A cottage, a beautiful garden. The perfect place to forget. To move on. But life doesn't always work that way…

Having authored ten novels, bestseller Julie Myerson has also dipped into the field of non-fiction with three books including Home: The Story of Everyone Who Ever Lived in Our House, which was dramatized on BBC Radio 4.

A devastating depiction of profound loss, sexual longing, love and true evil, The Stopped Heart is the finest novel to date from this most fearless and original of writers.

Reading around the Fens

While many of us enjoy both a good read and the many wonders of our local area, not so many have had the foresight to combine the two!

This month, we see a plethora of titles related to the Fens being put on the shelves and online. Having been tipped off as to some of the best, we decided to highlight a couple from around Cambridgeshire and Peterborough!

Memories Are Made of These

Author: Jack Dawes - £7.99

Take the life experience of a retired teacher from Stamford, add a selection of humorous personal encounters for the flavour, and you have the ingredients of a recently-published memoir.

In Memories Are Made of These, writer Jack Dawes guides readers through his school days, his early career as a tax inspector, and onto his time in the classroom of a Liverpool school. Each chapter is so redolent of the time, a blissful pre internet age when human relationships and interactions were all. More than a little nostalgic but without any element of rose tint, this charming account is evocative and funny and really does capture the essence of a bygone time

A Witch in Time Saves Nine

Author: Brian Kevin Porter - £11.99

One from closer to the midlands now, with Brian Kevin Porter's latest outing from the wonderful world of Molly Perkins.

While his writing career began when his schoolwork was awarded gold and silver stars, the Kirkby-in-Ashfield author returned to writing when he was awarded a silver pen for an article he wrote about a factory closing down. This inspired him to write his first children's bedtime short stories about a family of rabbits in a hedgerow. He enjoyed it so much he decided to write about witches and magic, and has since offered several stories of Molly Perkins' magical powers and adventures.

In his latest newest story, A Witch in Time Saves Nine, the young mystic moves onto pastures new, where strange behaviour in her bedroom lead to another mysterious investigation.

health

ADAM'S FITNESS CHALLENGE

IS THERE AN END OF THE ROAD?

You put the Park-run is in, you take some gym out, do the okey cokey and turn it around – that's what it's all about!

I was told this month that exercise, specifically of the running variety, is the secret to anger management. In fact, it was rather lauded as something of a cure-all. Bored, restless, irritable or even hungry – go for a run! This works in two of the many stages of running, namely the first (when everything is new and the PB's come in every week) and the last (when you have been running for long enough that you are zen-like about your general level of fitness). I am somewhere in the middle – generally speaking, every time I run there is something that irritates me. My time wasn't quick enough (or perhaps too quick), maybe I experienced a new ache or niggle, perhaps I took on a new route I wasn't expecting to be so challenging. This leads to more irritation, and more running, followed by a brief lapse of stopping, eating everything in the house for three days to make myself feel better, and then going out and regretting it for a solid week. Half way though this month I attempted to break the cycle of dissatisfaction – what follows are the results and a few tips I've picked up on the way.

Back under 30!

Lets kick off with the positives first. Regular readers will be glad to know I've not let my Parkrun go by the wayside – barring one unfortunate no-show due to the combination of a wedding, an open bar and something called the "gin of the month". Being back on the 5k train has paid off, and (alongside enjoying the beautiful lakes of Hinchingbrooke Park as we take the one-lap summer route) I have finally dragged myself back under the 30 minute barrier that had held me back since July.

Part of this is due to the course, which omits at least one minor hill and enjoys a nice downward meander to the finish, but another is due to consistency. I've never been a schedule's man, preferring to take life as it comes, but making the Saturday morning parkrun a regular activity has allowed me to subconsciously prepare better each morning, gives me a goal to strive for, and keeps me in the zone throughout the week. This has inspired much thought into the values of a schedule, which I will come to later, but I wanted

Harsh Realities

With the half marathon approaching, I have pretty much curtailed my gym time. However, I wanted to share a little group exercise story, because its motivated me to get back into my classes.

Staying up in Sheffield with my brother and his partner for a few days was something of a fitness culture shock – as I am sure I have mentioned in the past, both are far more active than I, often going as far as training several times a day. On this particular day, I found myself escorted out for a run (in which I was soundly out-exercised by a two-foot tall puppy) and later taken to the gym.

Here, we set aside forty minutes, but it flew by in what felt like ten. The objective was simple – you have three minutes to do 21 calories on the rower, 21 burpees and as many dumbbell snatches as you can. After three minutes, you do 3 less (18 calories, burpees) and so on until you reach 9. Simple enough, and despite the decline you really do feel the burn at around 15, and yet it was one of the most enjoyable sessions I have had this year.

COMPARISON Honestly, I feel like I'm cheating a bit here (nice suit as opposed to baggy jeans e.c.t) but it makes the point – he's a different man!

Why? Rather childishly, because it felt like a bit of a game. We were all vying off, having some fun in the rest periods, laughing at me getting a foot stuck in the rowing machine. I was having fun, and I ended up completing every round despite the fact I DESPISE burpees (just trust me) and smiling by the end. It just goes to show, its not always about the gains (although you will surely get them) but also about having a bit of fun with a few friends – once I have that in my mind, I'm all set!

Time tips

One of the things my trip up north taught me was the value of staying on task. Of course, as I am currently between jobs this is relatively simple, but in a few weeks the 9-5 grind will again catch me in its web, so I've been pondering how to stay on top of this. Here's my top tips for maintaining your schedule:

1. Don't be rigid

Within reason, anyway. This can be quite easy when you're on a training plan (such as mine for the half marathon) but I find when I attempt this I either fall into the trap of overconfidence (plan too much and end up an aching, immobile mess in a week) or the peril or over-complication (try and fit in every activity around my exercise and end up missing it because I forgot about a ten minute shower and it messes my next four days up). My advice is have a couple of must-haves, maybe a long run and a fitness class, and then plan the rest as a goal. For example, say you want to run three times this week (one being your must run) and then fit them in as the time comes around. It also allows for a bit of variation, which as you are about to learn is crucial.

2. Crosstrain like crazy

Do not, under any circumstances, do the same thing every day. It will drive you nuts. I've tried this with indoor exercise when my confidence was low, and I grew so bored I was actually trying to write this column while on an exercise bike – not my best work. So try and build in some variation – my top tip is join a fitness class like circuit training or kettlebells that changes each week. It adds a social factor too, and you'll avoid falling into a trap of over-focusing on a single muscle group.

3. The rest is in the rests!

Be sure to build in your rest days. It may seem tempting to keep upping things, especially if you have a few exercise-mad friends who constantly train. At a certain point your body can take it, but you'll never know when you might snap. This has happened to me once and it put me out for a week – keep it slow and steady and you will win the race!

A hair raising experience

Lastly, I wanted to talk a little about confidence. I remember once hearing Marcus Brigstocke talking about his childhood eating disorder, remarking that "at a certain weight, you have to become a Goth". Now, I have no disorder, and I have never been described as Goethe, but now I look back the more weight I had the more I seemed to let my hair grow out – and until recently I have never wanted to cut it.

Now, I don't want to oversimplify, so I should mention there were a few factors that went into such a drastic transformation, the major factor being that I simply fancied a change. But there is an element of this that relies on confidence. I've been wearing my hair long for over a decade (I think, certainly since secondary school), and I've come to realise that the only thing truly holding me back was fear of change, the fear of things being worse.

This is the part of me that has, strangely, changed the most since I started this. Not only do I feel different, I've been able to literally witness myself changing and become comfortable with it. I don't fear being a different person, because I am, and nothing has been lost while so much more is gained. It's bizarre to think that such a tiny change in lifestyle (and quite a lot of work from the marvellous Sam at Barnetts!) can have such an impact, but it does! I'm happy to say I'm a new man, and now I look it!... And it is so much easier to wash… it doesn't get in my eyes when I'm running… what was I thinking before!!!

13 point what?

As ever, fears don't go away, they just shift, and now the terrifying prospect of my first half marathon approaches. How do I feel? Nervous, of course, as well as rather nervous… and did I mention I'm nervous? Training isn't going to plan, but I haven't let myself down yet. Its all hard work from here, so expect plenty of running next month and if you see me out, sweating away, feel free to wave or say hi….Or, as an old friend demonstrated this month, a little light-hearted abuse. She was right, I won't get anywhere walking it!).

sport

Ramsey Carpet Bowls Club wins Charity Match

By Margaret Wheeler

Ramsey Carpet Bowls team members, Mick Palmer, Veronica Tye, Jenny Burley and Anne Harding received the winner's trophy from Chairman Marlene Barringer after winning the Charity Bowls Match at Ramsey on 23rd July.

Fifteen other teams came from around the district and took part in the competition on what was an enjoyable day. A total of £420.08 was raised for charity and this year the money will be given to the Sue Ryder Hospice in Peterborough.

This is the twelfth year the club has held this event and the sixth year that the money raised has been given to the Sue Ryder Hospice.

The Carpet Bowls club meets every Friday night at the Ramsey Community Hall from 7.30 to 9.30.

Steve Hall, Lisa Marriott and Gavin Stokes with their prizes at the Littleport 10k.

RAMSEY PICKING UP THE PRIZES

Ramsey Road Runner Gavin Stokes picked up 3 victories in 3 weeks in the 'male veteran aged 55' category during the month of July. In what is a busy race period for the club, he recorded wins at the Whitemoor 5 miler, St Ives 10k and the Littleport 10k.

Gavin said: "The Whitemoor 5 miler was the first time I have won an age category prize so to pick up two more in the next two weeks was very unexpected. I took up running in my forties and since I have joined Ramsey I have really improved."

Tough competition

Lisa Marriott yet again was the lady to beat at Whitemoor and Littleport, winning both races. Lisa said: "Littleport was close; I knew the second and third ladies were right behind but I just had enough in the last mile to build up a gap. The competition is tough at the moment but it is really nice to be picking up wins."

Second claim runner Steve Hall also had a good month winning the Fen Gallop 10k at Willingham and also picked up the first 'male veteran 45' category at Littleport.

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ONE LEISURE **RAMSEY**

Issue: 10/08/17

Swimming Pool Timetable

AUTUMN PROGRAMME - Monday 4th September to Tuesday 19th December 2017

MAIN TIMETABLE Monday 4th September to Tuesday 19th December 2017 (excludes October Half Term)

Mo	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Baby & Toddler Lessons 9.40 - 10.00	Private Use 10.00 - 11.00	Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 3.30	Junior Lessons 3.30 - 6.00	Public Swim +1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30		Lane Swim 7.30 - 9.00
Tu	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.00 - 11.00		Aquafit 11.05 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 4.00	Junior Lessons 4.00 - 6.00	Public Swim 6.00 - 7.00	Lane Swim 7.00 - 8.00	Private Use 8.00 - 9.00
We	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Baby & Toddler Lessons 9.00 - 10.00	Aquanatal 10.05 - 10.55	Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Aquafit 12.05 - 12.55	Private Use 1.00 - 5.50	Junior Lessons 5.50 - 6.00	Floats Fun 6.00 - 7.00	Lane Swim 7.00 - 9.00	
Th	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.00 - 10.30	Adult Lessons 10.30 - 11.30	Private Use 11.30 - 12.30	Adult Lanes 12.30 - 1.30	Private Use 1.30 - 4.00	Junior Lessons 4.00 - 6.00	Public Swim +1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30		Lane Swim 7.30 - 9.00
Fr	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.30 - 11.00		Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 5.00	Junior Lessons 5.30 - 6.00	Public Swim +1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30		Canoe Club 7.30 - 9.30
Sa	Early Birds 7.30 - 8.30	Junior Lessons 8.30 - 11.30			Party Hire 12.00 - 12.30	Floats Fun 1.00 - 3.00		Party Hire 3.00 - 3.30	Swimming pool closes at 3.30pm	
Su	Lane Swim 8.00 - 9.00	Family Fun 9.00 - 11.00		Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Party Hire 12.00 - 12.30	Floats Fun 1.00 - 2.30		Public Swim + 1 Lane 2.30 - 3.45	Swimming pool closes at 3.45pm	

sport

Upwood Cricket Club Report - August 2017

Adult Results

With only three games to go Upwood are third in the Hunts County Cricket League and look like that they will now miss out on promotion this year as only the top two get promoted (table reproduced below).

To move up into second was always going to be tough as they had to play 'top of the table' Sawtry twice. Unfortunately despite putting up a creditable performance at home they lost the first game at Upwood by 19 runs. Sawtry batted first and scored a par score of 212 for 7 off their 45 overs. Zac Stevens being the pick of the Upwood attack picking up 4-27 off his 10 overs with his sharp in swingers. In reply Upwood started steadily but were always struggling to keep up the run rate against some miserly bowling from Sawtry. Despite a flourish at the end Upwood were all out in the 45th over needing 20 to win.

The previous week was much more successful and was in fact the only game completed in the Hunts League over the entire weekend as rain caused all the other games to be abandoned. Playing Burghley Park 2nds again at Upwood only three Upwood bowlers were needed as they dismissed the visitors for just 54 with Adam Dean taking three wickets and Hayder Ali four. Burghley Park were 49 for 1 at one point but their innings collapsed including six ducks. Despite a rain break Upwood just managed to knock off the runs in time in 11 overs before the rain set in.

The return trip to Sawtry was also rain affected but this time Upwood were not victorious. Due to two last minute pull outs Upwood could only field nine players which made a difficult task almost impossible. Batting first in some trying conditions they managed to post a respectable 154 of 37 overs reduced by 8 due to the weather. Sawtry's batsmen were too good for the Upwood bowlers and with lots of gaps in the field scored freely to score their revised total of 135 with just the loss of 2 wickets.

With three games left against teams below them it is hoped that Upwood can consolidate third and press for promotion next year, hopefully with a few new players to strengthen the squad.

Team	p	w	l	c	a	lcn	wcn	t	BatP	BowlP	Pen	Pts
Sawtry CC - 1st XI	14	12	1	0	1	0	0	0	61	58	0	246
Biggleswade CC - Sat 1st XI	12	10	1	0	1	0	0	0	54	45	0	206
Upwood CC - 1st XI	13	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	51	49	0	170
Falcon XI CC - 1st XI	11	5	5	0	1	0	0	0	41	44	0	142
Orton Park CC - 2nd XI	12	4	6	0	2	0	0	0	38	40	0	132
Huntingdon & District CC - 2nd XI	11	4	6	0	1	0	0	0	42	34	0	123
Ramsey CC, Hunts - 3rd XI	13	3	8	0	2	0	0	0	39	24	0	107
Hampton CC - 2nd XI	11	3	6	0	2	0	0	0	25	36	0	105
Burghley Park CC - Saturday 2nd XI	11	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	36	23	0	69

Things have been disappointing for the seconds as they have only played one game recently in which they got resoundingly beaten by top of the League 5 table Sheikh XI. There other games had to be unfortunately called off as one week St Ives Sunday XI could not get a side and a week later Upwood were in the same boat themselves. Sadly, it seems more and more common that clubs are struggling to put out teams a trend that hopefully can be reversed.

Junior Results and Tournaments

The juniors have now completed all their scheduled league fixtures and it has been the best year recently in terms of games played and performances. The two under nine teams are currently 1st and 2nd in their division and it is hoped that the Wagtails will finish top after being undefeated all season, following a very tight game against Ramsey which resulted in a rare tie!

The under 11's finished a commendable mid table in their division and the club feel that they can improve on this next year with some quality players now really starting to shine.

It was a difficult year in terms of results in the inaugural year for joint Whittlesey/Upwood U13 team but they played lots of games and there has been a marked improvement from the beginning of the year to the end – and this has been commented on by the opposition coaches.

On Sunday the 8th August the club hosted a successful under 9 tournament for the third year in a row. Five teams from three clubs (one unfortunately had to pull out the night before) played in a round robin format with four games of ten overs. There were some excellent cricket games played in a competitive but sporting manner with less than 8 runs often separating the two participants. The weather was perfect for cricket, the BBQ was well received and all the players were rewarded for the efforts with a medal. The author would like to thank all the numerous kitchen helpers, the chef, umpires, scorers and those who helped prepare the ground; without their endeavours lovely days like this one would not happen. Congratulations to Orton Park A who were overall victors.

The under 11 will also have entered a tournament at Ramsey on Monday the 28th August in which they will play against: Ramsey, Godmanchester, Houghton & Wyton, Orton Park and Eaton Socon.

County Success

It is with some pride on my part that three Upwood girls represented the County Under 11 girls when they beat 1st Class County Northants at Upwood on the 3rd of August. The three girls Abby Smith, Sophie Lawrence and Annabelle Woodward have all been coached from an early age at Upwood. Northants batted first and were all out for 66 with both Sophie (right arm leg spin) and Annabelle (Right Arm Seam/Swing) picking up a wicket each. Hunts then applied themselves and surpassed their target with 9 balls remaining of their 30 overs. Of the Upwood trio Annabelle top scored with a well crafted 21. Tom Milner the County coach (and Upwood's Head Coach) was particularly pleased with the result against a 1st Class County.

End of Season Festival (Reminder)

On 16th September it will be the cricket clubs End of Season Do and awards evening.

Sophie Lawrence

Awards will be at 5pm followed by a Hog Roast and dancing in the Marquee till late. For the children there will be a bouncy obstacle course and the bar will be open for the adults including real ale on tap at cheap prices. Everyone is welcome regardless if you are a club member or not - especially families. The cost is £15 a ticket, per adult if purchased early and £17-50 on the night. Children are free as long as they are with a paying adult.

We are always looking for new players for the juniors and adults and our yearly subscriptions of £35 for adults and £10 are excellent value for money. Please contact Neil at npe.tuffin@gmail.com or on 07968771138 for more information.

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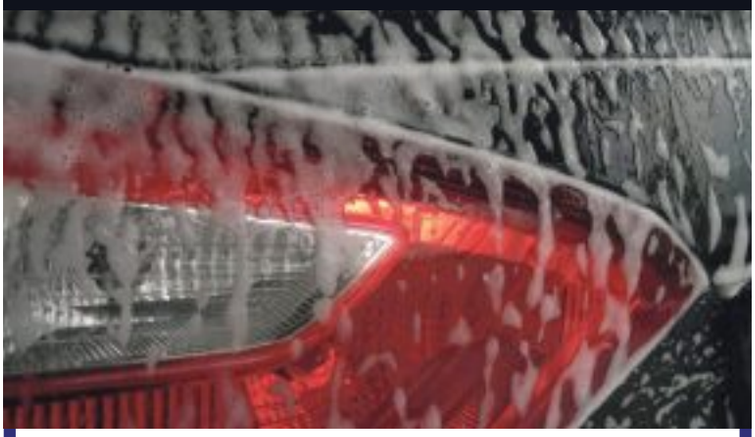

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The Camex Open top three, Steve Lovell (2nd), Mark Wood (1st) and Sean Homer (3rd). Photo credit: British Minigolf Association

STEVE TAKES SILVER IN THE CAMEX OPEN

Local minigolfer Steve Lovell showed great fighting spirit to take another runner up spot in the third running of the Cambridgeshire and Essex Open at Dunton Hills. At one stage during the final round, Lovell trailed the long-time leader Mark Wood by seven shots before clawing almost all of it back. In the end, a three at the last guaranteed Wood his maiden tour victory by one shot with Sean Homer taking third.

Steve said, "Mark had done so well in the opening two rounds, I had almost given up on winning. However, Dunton Hills is the hardest course on the tour and can really punish." He continued, "I could see Mark was starting to get tense and incredibly nervous. I ended the tournament so well, I put as much pressure on as I could but in the end, I just ran out of holes. I'm delighted with the result, a repeat of the previous two events here, and also for Mark, who is one of my best friends on the tour."

The following day, Steve was defending his doubles title from 2016 with his new playing partner, Derek Bentall. It was a hugely competitive event and they had to settle for sixth spot. The next event on the tour is the Wasps Open at Dobbies Garden Centre, Peterborough, on Sunday September 3rd.

For more details, contact Steve on 07790 946185 and you could be taking part.

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